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Ice time for girls hockey

21

Issue No. 21

34 pages, plus 6-page section

JANUARY 22, 2004

75 CENTS

CALL OF THE CHILD



Since she was 4, 12-year-old Annie McGraw has loved huskies. She hopes to one day compete in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race across Alaska. Story in Townspeople, page 15.

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Selectmen race on?

By Andrea Gregory

Selectmen Chairman John Hess and Selectman Ray Hender have announced their plans to seek reelection this year, but they could face competition in the March election.

Alex Vispoli, a former Pay As You Throw Committee member, has taken out papers, and is contemplating running. "And whether it's this or something else in town, I plan to be involved (in town government)," said Vispoli.

Vispoli, a seven-year resident of Alison Way, said he was involved in various forms of town government in Norfolk, such as the Planning Board, before moving to Andover. He said joining the Pay As You Throw Committee last fall made him want to become more involved in Andover's government.

As for the competition, Vispoli said he is not concerned about going up against two incumbent selectmen, should he decide to run. "No, I don't think that's an issue," he said.

There are no races for any other town position at this point.

John Roberts is the latest potential candidate to take out School Committee papers. Tina Girdwood, chairwoman, and Dick Collins are both up for reelection. Girdwood has announced she will not seek reelection, leaving her seat open for a newcomer. According to Randy Hanson, town clerk, Collins is the only candidate to return papers.

Buying badges online

Andover police patches, Gillette security badges being sold

By Andrea Gregory

With the click of a mouse and the right bid last week, any Internet user could have bought a Gillette Co. security badge like the ones used at Gillette's Andover location.

Thanks to an Internet site called policebadge.com, it is possible for people to bid on everything from FBI badges to the badge of Lexington's police chief.

Such news does not surprise Andover Police Lt. James Hashem. Although Andover badges were not being sold online — and Andover police say they have never seen Andover badges available online — Hashem has seen other Andover police paraphernalia and other departments' badges being sold.

Hashem said regardless of whether the badges are real, many people would not know how to spot a fake FBI or other departmental badge if it were flashed before them.

"It is an issue. It hasn't been one here in Andover, but it is an issue," he said.

While Hashem did not know of any instances where Andover police badges went up for sale, he said the patches Andover police wear on their uniform are no stranger to Internet auctions.

According to Hashem, four years ago the Andover Police Department replaced its patches. He said shortly after the new patches came in, the department learned someone was trying to make a profit by selling them online.

"They had them on eBay. They had them almost as fast as

we did," said Hashem. "They are the brand new ones. They are identical ones."

He said the department tried to track how the patches were getting online, but it was not successful in its attempts. He said he recently saw the patches were still on eBay. Starting bid — \$2.

"You can purchase almost anything on the Internet. You could probably buy an entire uniform on the Web," he said. "It's a crime, obviously, to impersonate a police officer."

Continued on page 5



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

It is illegal to sell police badges, such as the Andover shields above.



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Andover Lt. James Hashem says the police department's new patches became available on eBay almost immediately after they were redesigned for officers. Andover police badges have never been seen online by Andover police.

Secret deal gives Bach three years

School Committee mum on agreement since July

By Ben Hellman

The School Committee agreed to extend Superintendent Claudia Bach's contract in July, and offer minimum raises each year, but never announced its decision to the public.

While some residents were angered they were not informed of the agreement, School Committee Chairwoman Tina Girdwood defended the move, made in a closed meeting, as the committee's prerogative.

The agreement was made in writing through a document titled "Memorandum of Understanding," which was stapled to the front of Bach's existing contract. The agreement was signed July 29, 2003 by Bach and Girdwood.

The agreement promises to:

- Extend Bach's contract through June 30, 2007.
- Give a 3-percent minimum increase each year with the opportunity of a 5-percent increase if "specifically defined measurable goals are achieved."
- Give \$8,000 a year to an annuity of Bach's choice.

Bach's contract was last negotiated in September 2000 with a base salary of \$112,476, and she has received 3-percent increases each year. She is also eligible for yearly cost-of-living increases and merit pay by a committee vote. She is making \$131,644 this year.

Secrecy

Girdwood said there was no

need to announce the agreement before the committee decided the timing was appropriate. "It doesn't have to be public until we want it to be," said Girdwood, who will not run for reelection. "That's our choice. That's our business," Girdwood said the right to decide how and

when to announce the decision stemmed from the committee's authority to negotiate the superintendent's contract.

Girdwood said the agreement does not go into effect until July 1,

2004, when Bach's current contract expires. "There was no urgency in bringing it forward," said Girdwood. She said the committee had planned to announce the agreement in the coming weeks.

At Tuesday night's committee meeting Bach's contract agreement was handled quietly. Girdwood read a prepared statement and the matter was not brought up again. "The School Committee has not concluded contract negotiations with Claudia Bach," she read, in part. Girdwood said negotiations would conclude in June. Girdwood did not mention the key points of the contract that have already been agreed upon.

Members were reluctant to discuss how the agreement was made. But member Art Barber said all committee members supported it. "As a unit we supported it. To the best of my

Continued on page 2

"It doesn't have to be public until we want it to be."

SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMAN TINA GIRDWOOD

Secret-meeting notes are sketchy

By Ben Hellman

There is scant record of the discussions that led the School Committee to agree to a memorandum saying it will extend Superintendent Claudia Bach's contract, increase her pay and offer other perks.

The handwritten meeting minutes from nine different secret sessions — or executive sessions — on the matter were given to the *Townsman* on Tuesday after the newspaper presented a written request invoking the Freedom of Information Act, which forces government bodies to relinquish public documents.

The school administration charged the *Townsman* \$92.50 for 17 pages of meeting minutes that reveal little of the process the committee followed in executing one of its central responsibilities, choosing a superintendent. In May 2003, the School Committee cloistered itself in secret discussions when they learned Bach was a finalist for a superintendent position in Cam-

bridge. The committee spent more than 11 hours in May during five separate meetings.

Most of the records of the meetings that pertain to Bach's contract contain only a sentence or two. The record of the first meeting on the topic, a three-hour session on Thursday, May 1, stated, in its entirety: "Lengthy discussion of Claudia Bach's status as supt. here and the possibility of her moving to Cambridge. Phone call made to Tina Girdwood for her input."

All the meeting minutes are dated and tell when the meeting started and ended. There is also record of who attended. On Tuesday, July 29, 2003 — the day the agreement was signed by Bach and Girdwood — the only record in the executive meeting minutes concerning Bach's future is: "Passed around memo of understanding for C. Bach." All members were counted present in the minutes for that meeting.

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Tonight: Residents can grill officials on budget

By Ben Hellman

Town leaders hope for education and a strengthening of the democratic process from the town budget forum tonight, Thursday, Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m. The forum, planned by school parents, will be at West Middle School Auditorium and is open to all residents.

The Andover school budget is almost \$1 million short of funding current programs and positions for September. The deficit does not include the expected cost of 19 new teachers to fulfill the superintendent's plan to

increase class time at Andover High School as required by the state. The deficit also doesn't include a potential teacher wage increase that could come out of teacher-contract negotiations.

Moderator Madhu Sridhar, League of Women Voters of Massachusetts president, said many Massachusetts towns are experiencing budget gaps similar to Andover's. "It's a very timely and important forum," said Sridhar. Sridhar called citizens the "guardians of democracy" and said it was necessary for residents to take part in the

process. Sridhar also has a son who is a sophomore at AHS.

Selectman panelist Ray Hender said it would be a chance for leaders to hear from residents and a chance for residents to learn about the budget process. "I think it will be a learning experience for people who don't spend as much time with the budget," he said. Hender said it would be educational for him as well to hear from residents. "You need to know what people are thinking of," he said.

Selectmen Chairman John Hess is

another panelist. He is also looking for feedback and hoping people will leave understanding the budget model. Water, sewers and highway expenses are not interchangeable with the school budget, something people do not always understand. "People see paving going on — that money is earmarked by the state for the roads," said Hess. Knowing how the system works will make residents better able to participate, said Hess. "There are some things we can change," he said.

Finance Committee member Debbie

Silberstein believes the forum is being held a little early because the town budget hasn't been announced yet. But she said becoming knowledgeable about the system is important.

Silberstein said residents need to know their importance in the budget process.

"Each player is an integral part of this process. It's not just the selectmen or the Finance Committee. Town Meeting is the legislative body. (Town Meeting voters) are the legislative body of the community."

Notes: Little information

MEETING NOTES

Continued from page 1

According to the information supplied by the school department, Bach's contract was not discussed between June 17 and July 29, when the agreement was signed. That is a stretch of more than one month. The only record of discussion pertaining to Bach's contract at the June 17 meeting reads: "Discussion of C. Bach's contract. Agreement on the procedure we should follow."

Other meetings included conversations about other com-

mittee business, such as discussions about teacher negotiations. Most of the minutes did not need to be censored, but committee chairwoman Tina Girdwood helped Bach for 45 minutes to obliterate certain sentences with a black marker before the documents were released to the paper.

Schools Business Manager Bernie Tuttle said there was no charge for Girdwood's time because she is not a paid employee.

School Committee Member Tony James pointed out that the committee didn't offer Bach a new contract until after Cambridge turned her down for the job. "We didn't have any knee-jerk reaction," he said.

Cambridge announced its decision on Tuesday, May 13, more than two months before Girdwood and Bach signed the memorandum of understanding promising Bach a contract through 2007.

On Tuesday, May 13 James and Barber had made public statements acknowledging that no deal had been made with Bach.

'Understanding' extends Bach's deal

SUPERINTENDENT PACT

Continued from page 1

recollection we all supported it," said Barber.

Member Christopher Smith said the committee supported, but didn't vote on the agreement. "It was consensus. We didn't take a vote," he said.

Bach said the agreement was a unanimous decision between her and the entire committee.

Disagreement

Committee members offered different reasons for keeping the agreement secret. Member Christopher Smith said the document was available to the public if they requested it from the human resources department. "It's publicly available," he said. "It doesn't mean a neon sign has to be hung out."

Smith disagreed that the decision was final. He called it a "philosophical agreement" that could be altered. "I would contend that this isn't a contract," he said. Smith compared it to the Boston Red Sox attempt to recruit Texas Ranger's shortstop Alex "A-Rod" Rodriguez. "He's not coming to Boston," said

Smith.

However the agreement uses language such as "The parties hereto agree to the following: The School Committee will extend Dr. Bach's current contract through June 30, 2007."

Girdwood said the agreement was final and could not be broken. "This is an agreement," she said.

Member Tony James also said the memorandum was binding. He said the agreement could be made without announcement because it had taken place in executive session, which allows officials to discuss personnel matters, contract negotiations and other specific matters that could be harmed by announcing them publicly. "At the time, this was a contractual discussion," said James.

Member Art Barber also said the matter was one of personnel or contract negotiation. "It

sounded to me and looked like we were doing the right thing," he said.

Member Richard Collins did not believe an agreement had taken place. "I think we just talked about it," he said. He declined further comment. "I want to talk about it before I make a public statement," he said.

The agreement was made two months after Bach was passed over for a superintendent position in Cambridge. Members James, Barber and Smith said Bach was being underpaid compared to area superintendents and whether her contract was extended or a new superintendent was sought, a larger amount of money would need to be offered if Andover was to secure a proper candidate.

Reaction
Andover High School PAC co-president Ellen Travers was surprised to learn of Bach's con-

tract extension. She and other PAC members have been asking committee members when Bach's contract negotiations would begin, she said. "Multiple people have asked multiple times. We never got a direct answer. Never," she said.

"It's almost like professional integrity as School Committee people," said Travers. "This goes to the heart of what can you trust from the School Committee. My trust is going down."

Andover High School Parent Sue Conway said the superintendent is like the CEO of a company and CEOs need to be evaluated yearly. "I don't see how they could possibly consider renewing her contract when she has a whole year to fulfill and they need to evaluate that year," she said. Conway said the classroom problems at the high school and this year's budget process should have been addressed before Bach's contract was renewed.

Selectman Ray Hender said a review process that invited the public's opinion should have preceded salary negotiations or a contract extension. That is the process followed by selectmen when they consider the town manager's salary increases, he said. "To me it seems like they have their priorities a little mixed," he said. "In all fairness, the public should at least be given the right to express their opinion."

Selectmen Chairman John Hess said, although he was not privy to the reasons the School Committee did not announce it will extend Bach's contract, he thought it should have been made public. "I think I would have announced it," said Hess. He said extending the town manager's contract is a public process.

MAKING IT PUBLIC

A handwritten, itemized bill for copies of all executive session minutes relating to the Bach deal included:

- \$3.40 for 17 copies at 20 cents per page
- \$41.63 for 1½ hours of Superintendent Bach's assistant Laura Ridley's time to gather the records
- \$47.47 for 45 minutes of Bach's time spent checking and editing the records

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IN BRIEF

Tomorrow: Last day to file private articles

The Annual Town Election will take place on Tuesday, March 23.

Elected offices on the ballot are: moderator, one position for one year; selectman, two positions for three years; School Committee member, two positions for three years; and Andover Housing Authority member, one position for five years.

The last day to submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars to be nominated on the ballot is Tuesday, Feb. 3, at 5 p.m. To appear on the ballot, a candidate must acquire 50 signatures of registered voters in the town.

The Annual Town Meeting will be held April 26 and 27, and May 3 and 4. The last day to file a private warrant article for Town Meeting is tomorrow Friday, Jan. 23, at 4:30 p.m. For a private warrant article to appear on the Annual Town Meeting warrant, a petitioner must acquire 10 signatures of registered voters in the town.

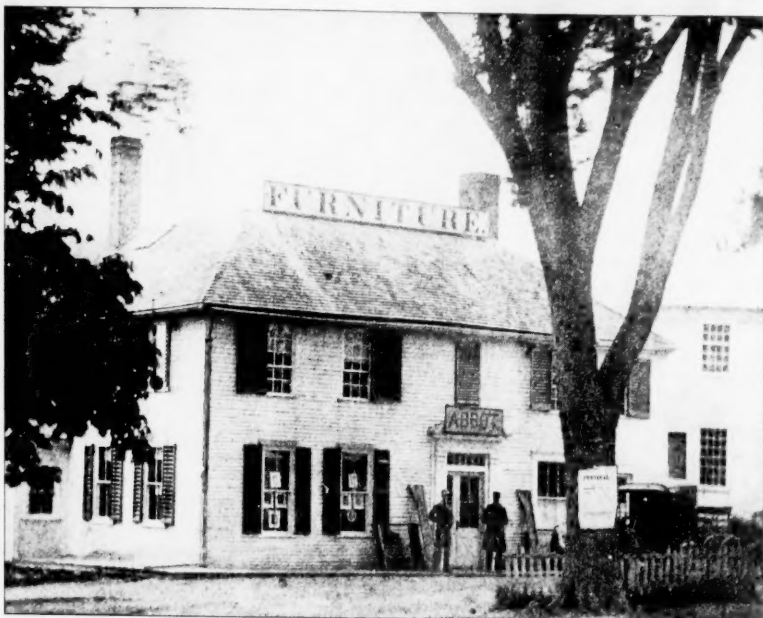
Those interested in running for office or who need more information on the filing of a private warrant article for the Annual Town Meeting should contact Randy Hanson, town clerk, at 978-623-8258.

Tucker honored

State Sen. Susan C. Tucker (D-Andover) was expected to be one of six legislators to receive a Legislative Achievement Award last night, Wednesday, Jan. 21 at the seventh annual Jewish Community Legislative Reception.

Key Jewish leaders from throughout the state planned to join with Speaker of the House Thomas M. Finneran, Senate President Robert E. Travaglini and more than 60 state legislators to present the awards. Awards were to be presented by the Massachusetts Association of Jewish Federations and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston to policy makers "who have shown leadership on a range of issues, including services for seniors, immigrants, individuals with mental illness and mental retardation, and support for low-income families."

PAST AND PRESENT



The top image shows Abbot Furniture Store, which was owned by Herman and Joseph Abbot and destroyed in a fire in 1870. The location of the store is now the site of Memorial Hall Library, built downtown as a war memorial in 1873. The bottom photo shows Memorial Hall Library on Tuesday.

Quote, unquote . . .

NONE OF THE MUSIC TEACHERS I had are there anymore. It bums me out....
—Guitarist Jesse Gallagher, now of Los Angeles, talking about his years at Andover High School, when music programs were more plentiful and better funded by the school system. (Story in Arts & Entertainment, page 6)

ONE CUSTOMER SAID, "You put yourself in your garage and I'll go there."
—Enzo Fossella, owner of Enzo of Andover, on having to move his business out of the Musgrove Building after 21 years. (Story in Business, page 19)

News Calendar**Thursday, Jan. 22**

School Committee, State Department of Education, Malden, 9 a.m.

1707 Teachers Contract Negotiations, Greater Lawrence Technical School, River Road, 4 p.m.

School Committee Budget

Forum, West Middle School auditorium, 6:30 p.m.

Disabilities Commission, Memorial Hall Library, Activity Room, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 26

Cultural Council, Town Offices, third floor, 7 p.m.

Selectmen, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 27

School Committee, School administration building, 6 p.m.

Planning Board, Town Offices, third floor, 7:30 p.m.

Vision 21 Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 29

Main Street Committee, Town Offices, second floor, 9 a.m.

Housing Partnership Committee, Town Offices, first floor, 8 a.m.

Revenue Enhancement Committee, School Administration Building, conference room A, 7:30 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 2

1707 Sub-Groups Contract Negotiations, Greater Lawrence Technical School, River Road, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

School Committee, School Administration Building, 7:30 p.m.

Town Democrats picking convention delegates

Registered Democrats in Andover will hold a caucus at West Middle School on Jan. 31 at 10 a.m. to elect delegates and alternates to the Massachusetts Democratic Convention. Delegates will include an equal number of men and women.

The caucus is open to all registered Democrats in Andover. Candidates for delegate and alternate must consent to nomination in writing. All ballots will be written and secret. Those not

elected as delegate or alternate, and who meet the qualifications, may apply to be an add-on delegate in the following categories: youth, minority and disabled.

For more information contact Nancy O'Connor Stolberg at 978-470-2784.

Finegold office hours

State Rep. Barry R. Finegold and staff will hold office hours on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at the Andover Senior Center from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and at Memorial Hall Library from 6 to 7 p.m.

Blood drive

Residents can donate blood on Tuesday, Jan. 27, at Temple Emanuel, Haggetts Pond Road. Donor hours are 2 to 7 p.m. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) with any questions.

Tucker office hours

Sen. Sue Tucker announced today she will be holding her monthly office hours at the Andover Memorial Library on Wednesday, Jan. 28 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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2004: THE YEAR AHEAD

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Demolition delay doubled

By Judy Wakefield

The year 2003 will be remembered for two new bylaws that make it harder to demolish old buildings in town, thanks to the Preservation Commission. This group passed the Dimensional Special Permit/Historic Preservation Bylaw in 2003, and voted to double the demolition-delay period from six to 12 months.

"These two bylaws will allow some options to enable historic preservation," said Karen Herman, committee chairwoman, when she was asked to reflect on goals met during 2003.

The bottom line is those interested in preservation will have more time to look at demolition plans for buildings and homes. As for 2004, Herman said, "we will continue to try to develop goals and an action plan to better preserve community character."

Herman was one of the first on the scene of a downtown fire that destroyed a building on Barnard Street last summer. The building dated back to the late 1800s when Jacob Barnard ran a shoe shop there with some 200 employees, according to town files. The building was

demolished last month.

Herman said she was disappointed the building had to be destroyed, because a part of Andover history came down it. But it was deemed dangerous, so preservation officials supported the demolition plans.

Meanwhile, Herman's committee plans to produce an up-to-date inventory of historical buildings in town this year. "This is a general survey of Andover's historic buildings and it ranges from the late 17th century through the 20th century," she said. "It's an important local resource and the goal is to eventually have all this online."

The Preservation Committee is working with the Andover Historical Society and Memorial Hall Library to put together the survey.

The downtown scene will be another area of focus this year for the Preservation Committee. Herman's group plans to keep a close eye on any downtown makeover plans.

"We remain vitally interested in the downtown district, its historic buildings and character," she said. "It's important to keep its historic sense and attractiveness in order to attract business, retail and otherwise."

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

New contract in 2004

By Ben Hellman

The Cable Advisory Committee made sure the new schools were fully hooked up for cable this year, said member Jerry Silverman. The committee negotiates the free coverage of town meetings and for the cable services at the schools. Getting High Plain Elementary and Wood Hill Middle schools hooked up was still an issue in 2003. "That was probably the major thing we were concerned with," said Silverman.

A cable bill increase going into effect at the beginning of 2004 is not negotiated by the advisory committee, said Silverman. Silverman said 2004 would be spent developing the next contract with Comcast, which will go into effect in 2005.

The committee negotiates with Andover's cable provider to get services for the town. The five-member board meets monthly in open meetings that residents are welcome to attend, said Annetta Freedman, a member since 1982. A Comcast representative also attends. "We hear complaints and we try to do everything we can, but everything is government controlled," said Freedman.

The people who actually run the cameras and media equipment at public meetings are trained and paid by Comcast out of funds paid to Andover. Freedman said the quality of meeting coverage is unusual for town cable. "I think in comparison to towns around here, we have a superior system," she said.



The town's deal with its cable company has always allowed for at least one public access channel.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Plan to develop two-bedroom elderly units

By Andrea Gregory

Maintaining 34 buildings that make up five housing facilities - four elderly and one for low income families - kept the Andover Housing Authority busy in 2003, but it also made board members aware of a housing option Andover has not offered yet.

Ron Hajj, member of the Housing Authority, said there are no two bedroom options for elderly people in town. He said some elderly couples with medical conditions that prevent them from sharing a bedroom could really benefit from two-bedroom elderly units being added to Andover's housing stock.

So what's the plan?

"We're looking to get some land and develop some housing," said Hajj.

Hajj said the Housing Authority has set up a non-profit organization called Andover's Future Housing Corp. Hajj said it is too premature to disclose any of the possible locations for building a facility with two-bed-

room elderly units, but he assures talks are taking place, and this is a project the Housing Authority intends to move forward with during 2004.

"I think there's a great need out there," said Christine Metzemaekers, Housing Authority director. "That was one of the issues."

"We're looking to get land and develop some housing."

HOUSING AUTHORITY'S RON HAJJ ON CREATING TWO-BEDROOM UNITS FOR THE ELDERLY

According to Metzemaekers, the elderly units are 450 square feet, but the new organization could set out to tackle other housing issues as well.

"It isn't going to happen overnight or anything," Hajj said. "Everything is in

(its) infancy."

Hajj said, now that the non-profit organization is in place, the housing authority will be going after grants to support its project. Donations are welcome.

"We're going to need large amounts of money, but we would take anything," said Hajj.

Those interested in making contributions can mail checks made out to "Andover's Future Housing Corporation" to 100 Morton St. in Andover.

POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Sunday, Jan. 18 - At 9:26 p.m., Maureen Hopkins, 42, of 16 Bridle Path Road, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, a second offense.

THEFTS

Wednesday, Jan. 14 - At 5:51 p.m., a Pleasant Street resident reported his debit card was duplicated and used in Paris, France.

Thursday, Jan. 15 - At 9:15 a.m., a Phillips Academy safety officer reported a theft.

Tuesday, Jan. 20 - At 7:00 p.m., an Elm Street resident reported the theft of some cash and medication from his house.

BREAKS

Wednesday, Jan. 14 - At 11:12 a.m., a Pioneer Circle resident reported a previous break and entry.

INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 14 - At 5:35 a.m., a resident reported his wife was having a nervous breakdown. She was taken to the hospital.

At 5:01 p.m., a Tessier Drive resident called concerned for the welfare of a dog left outside in the weather.

Thursday, Jan. 15 - At 9:05 a.m., a decapitated snowman holding his head was found in the woods with the name of a religious group inscribed on the snowman.

At 12:20 p.m., two children were reported locked in a running car at the School of Montessori on South Main Street. A child unlocked the door before a tow truck arrived to open the door.

At 1:40 p.m., a small child was locked in a running car on Canterbury Street. Elm Street Auto opened the doors.

At 9:06 p.m., a caller was concerned for a man in a wheelchair on North Main Street out in the cold. He was enjoying a hot coffee and cigarette, reported an officer.

Saturday, Jan. 17 - At 4:23 p.m., a resident complained of feeling suicidal.

At 8:31 p.m., a man reported being punched in the face by a cab driver on Main Street, who then drove off with his belongings.

At 11:05 p.m., a Linda Road resident reported a loud party nearby. Kids were later seen running from a Linda Road home. The remaining ones pulled down the shades and hid, according to the log.

Sunday, Jan. 18 - At 11:48 a.m., a caller reported her husband had a psychotic episode and took the car.

Tuesday, Jan. 20 - At 9:25 a.m., an officer reported the sidewalk on North Main Street between Shawshen Plaza and Frye Circle impassible.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 14 - At 6:20 a.m., a car was reported stolen from the Tague Inn on River Road. It had already been recovered by police in Salem, N.H.

ACCIDENTS

Sunday, Jan. 18 - At 1:55 p.m., there was a report of an accident on Salem Street with injuries.

There were two reports of vandalism.

COMPILED BY BEN HELLMAN

BOARD OF HEALTH

Active year tackling pollutants leads to another

By Ben Hellman

For Andover's Board of Health, pollution was a major concern in 2003. Health Director Everett Penney worked with residents and the BOH to educate the public and taking steps to eliminate pollutants to Andover's drinking supply, and environment, said BOH member Douglas Dunbar.

Dunbar listed major events and concerns the BOH dealt with and will continue to work on in 2004.

Fish Brook contamination - In October, Fish Brook - a five-mile long stream pumped into Haggetts Pond, the town water supply, near the junction of Interstate 93 and 495 - showed sodium levels 25 times greater than those recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency.

A state salt dump at the interstate junction was determined the main culprit, but salt runoff from the highways also contributes to the problem, said Penney.

Penney requested a meeting with Stephen O'Donnell, district highway director, to get the state to switch from dropping 100 percent salt to a salt/sand mixture that would reduce the sodium levels in Andover's water. Mass Highway has not responded to the request, later joined by a similar one from

state Sen. Sue Tucker.

Fish Brook Initiative Task Force - 12 residents responded to a request by Penney to study the overall affects of pollution to Fish Brook. Many of the residents have backgrounds on water purity or related science fields. They have met and begun to plan their activities for 2004.

Pesticide policy - In August the BOH passed a policy declaring pesticides potentially harmful to children, adults, animals and the environment. The policy was said by Penney to be the first step in educating the public to the potential dangers of pesticides, chemical fertilizers and other chemicals used by residents and businesses in Andover. Penney said at the time he envisioned a bylaw regulating pesticide use. He expected such a move to happen within three years.

Deyermund Fields safe for use - Dunbar says air quality tests at Deyermund Fields - which sits on an improperly capped landfill - came back safe for use in 2003. Dunbar said there is no risk to using the fields.

Mercury disposal regulations - Responding to the Massachusetts Board of Health's concerns over the high level of mercury found in fish in local ponds, the

Andover BOH has required builders and residents to hand in thermostats, thermometers and other mercury-containing devices before demolishing a building.

The concern with throwing mercury-containing devices into the trash is the potential for the mercury to go through an incinerator and be dispersed in the environment.

Building and demolition permits are reviewed by the BOH. Proper disposal of mercury-containing devices is now contingent on having the permits approved. Penney pointed to the Ramada Rolling Green Hotel, which is being demolished to make way for a affordable housing complex. "There are 200 rooms - each with a thermometer. They'll have to turn those in," said Penney.

There is a \$100 fine for the improper disposal of a mercury-containing device.

In 2004 - Dunbar says studying Fish Brook and working with the state to cut back on salt storage and use in Andover's watershed are issues for 2004. A separate issue is regulating food brought into the schools for bake sales and other events. Dunbar would like to see the schools' food services director regulate food brought into the schools or have a parent step forward.

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SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Andover pastor on church task force

By Ben Hellman

Christ Church pastor Jeffrey Gill will help draft a response from the state's Episcopal Church to conservative Christian groups that have come out against gay marriage. Gill has been asked by the Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts to serve on a 10-member task force that will create a liturgy for blessing same-sex unions.

"We don't know yet what it's going to be called," said Gill. "We want to look at it as holy."

Gill said the move reflects Christ Church's membership views. "On the whole, the (Christ Church) congregation is very open and accepting," said Gill. He said the Massachusetts Diocese, which consists of Eastern Massachusetts including Andover, is also accepting of gays.

Christ Church in Andover and the Episcopal Church locally have made other moves

showing an accepting view of gays in the church. Former Christ Church priest Lionel McGhee was openly gay while he led the parish, and last year the New Hampshire Diocese made news when it consecrated openly gay bishop Gene Robinson.

Gill said the matter of accepting homosexuals into the clergy was a divisive issue for the Episcopal Church, the American branch of the Anglican Communion. Gill said he supported Robinson's consecration and believed other Massachusetts Episcopal clergy did too. "I saw an awful lot of Massachusetts clergy there," he said.

West Parish Church

A group of West Parish Church members met Sunday to discuss an organized response to groups that would oppose gay marriage. Pastor Elizabeth King called the meet-

ing, but was sick over the weekend and did not attend herself.

West Parish has a welcoming policy that states people are welcome to worship and take full part in the life of the congregation, regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation. King said the group resolved to form relationships with other United Churches of Christ that support the right for people of the same gender to marry. King planned to attend a meeting supporting same-sex marriage at Pilgrim Church, a United Church of Christ congregation in Lexington yesterday, Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Unitarian Universalist

Andover Unitarian Universalist pastor Ralph Galen also plans to attend the meeting and hopes to have a meeting in Andover supporting same-sex marriage. "We would like to have an open community meeting," said Galen.

MARCH FOR LIFE TODAY

Local organizer there

By Andrea Gregory

Thousands of pro-life supporters will gather in Washington, D.C. protesting the 31 anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* today, Jan. 22.

Since the landmark Roe Supreme Court decision, the March for Life has been a unionizing way for people who oppose abortion to gather, letting their numbers and signs demonstrate the pro-life view.

Among those in the crowd will be Theresa Gorey, of Andover, who for the second year in a row has helped organize a bus trip bringing residents of Andover and nearby towns to the event.

This year's group of 50 people left at 7 a.m., Wednesday, from the Faith Lutheran Church in Andover. Six Andover residents had signed up to board the bus, said Gorey. "There are a lot of people that think it's a political issue. It's not a political issue. How is the life of an unborn child a political issue?" Gorey said. "It's kind of a disgrace to our country."

Gorey has strong pro-life views. She talks vigorously and passionately about the rights of unborn children and how she believes abortion is wrong, but she is empathetic to women who are faced with unexpected pregnancies.

"I understand what these women are going through. They see no options," Gorey said. "Abortion never helps women. Abortion is hurting so many women. This is not a solution. We have to tell them, this is something they will regret." She said for the past three and a half years she has been traveling to Boston every Friday to provide what she calls "sidewalk counseling" outside of Planned Parenthood on Commonwealth Avenue.

As a pro-life activist she said she has noticed more young people are becoming pro-life and joining the crusade to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Before leaving Andover, she said she expected to see more young faces than old ones in D.C.

IN IOWA

Voting issue for Rep. Finegold

By Andrea Gregory

An elections official in Des Moines said Andover State Rep. Barry Finegold did nothing wrong when he stood among people being counted as John Kerry supporters at the Iowa caucuses.

Mike Mauro, elections commissioner for Polk County where Iowa's 19th Precinct is located, said there is no evidence to indicate that Finegold did not get lost in the shuffle—the explanation given by Finegold after a complaint was made against him. Mauro said records show Finegold did not register to vote at the caucuses Monday.

Mauro said the number of registered voters was equal to the number of votes counted in the 19th Precinct, so Finegold standing with Kerry supporters during the count did not interfere with the final tally.

Finegold was accused by a Howard Dean supporter of trying to snag an extra vote for

Kerry. Timothy Griffiths, a 29-year-old law student from the University of California Berkeley and a Dean supporter, said Finegold was standing among Kerry supporters from Iowa's 19th Precinct during a head count. "He was three or four people in," Griffiths said. "There was no indication that he was not there trying to be counted. It does speak a little bit to his character."

"What happened was I was out of the room," said Finegold. "By the time I got back in the room I just went to where the (Kerry) people were standing. I saw (the precinct captain) when he was counting, and he definitely did not count me. Most people know each other around there."

Mauro said, "I don't know why he was standing in the group. The observers should have been taken away out of play. It sure wasn't good judgment to be standing with the group."

Having badge illegal for public



Lt. James Hashem says police carry both a badge and a photo ID to prove they work for the department. A concerned resident can call the police to confirm someone is an officer.

ONLINE BADGES

Continued from page 1

Hashem said selling the Andover patches on eBay or other auction sites is not illegal. Neither is selling Gillette Co. security badges, because Gillette is a private company. (Gillette did not return phone calls seeking comment about likenesses of their badges being auctioned online.)

But merely possessing a police badge, or something that looks like a real badge, is illegal.

Under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 268 Section 35 "possession a badge or thing in the likeness of an official badge of a police officer, member of a fire department, or other officer appointed by a town in the Commonwealth, or by any department of such town, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$50."

The Attorney General's office was asked to comment on the precautions in place to ensure badges do not end up in the wrong hands, but did not respond by *Townsmen* press time.

Although a badge is definitely a symbol of the police force, Hashem said, it is not the only identification each officer carries. "The officer would have his photo ID available," said Hashem. "If there is any question (in residents' minds) about anyone's ID, they should call the police."

\$96,000 for laptop batteries

Superintendent and School Committee at odds

By Ben Hellman

The School Committee has asked Superintendent Claudia Bach to justify spending \$96,000 for laptop computer batteries.

Bach supports spending the amount in the School Department's Capital Improvement Plan. Committee members agreed to bring the matter back for a decision at their Tuesday, March 9 meeting.

Bach said there was a misunderstanding about the laptop program. She explained that there are three components to the program in the Andover schools: the laptop program at South and West elementary schools, which has students buy their own laptops and batteries; the mobile laptop carts; and laptops for teachers. Batteries are provided for mobile labs and teacher laptops only, said Bach.

Bach said laptop computers and more mobile forms of technology are becoming more common in education, and that has been the track Andover has been following. "We made the decision and we feel strongly now that this is the direction we want to go in," said Bach. Bach said



Arthur Barber and Claudia Bach listen to discussion.

high school students should have laptops and hand-held devices. "It's not the schools we went to. It's not the schools (of) five years ago," she said.

Member Christopher Smith responded, "Even if that is the case, I maintain they are too costly to maintain." Smith suggested the money be used to invest in power outlets for laptops to be plugged into to save on batteries, or on desktops, which are less expensive than laptops and use no batteries.

Committee member Art Bar-

ber asked Bach for a review that would explain what the school system was getting by spending \$96,000 on laptop batteries. "What are these batteries going to accomplish. What programs are they going to support. What are we getting for \$90,000?" Barber asked.

Member Tony James favored a longer-term study that could continue into the summer. "If there is a huge misunderstanding in the community about technology, it's time to do a review," he said.



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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, January 22

Opening reception, for the Andover Historical Society's latest exhibition in its ongoing Contemporary Andover Artists Series, a selection of works created by Andover High School art students will be on display in the Reception Gallery through March. Students will be at the opening event to talk about their work. 7 p.m., Andover Historical Society and Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236, www.andhist.org.

Career Selection Night, sponsored by Greater Lawrence Technical School, for ninth-grade students and their parents, families will gather in the school cafeteria for refreshments and an overview of the selection process, then move to classrooms where they can discuss career choices or meet with staff members; 5:30-7 p.m., at the school, River Road; Barbara Parente, 978-686-0194, Ext. 1008.

Concert, Amy Fairchild and Jenny Bruce, 8 p.m., call for prices, Crescent Dragon, 59 Washington St., Haverhill; Kimball Packard 781-246-7944.

Live music, Lyrical Battleground, \$8, Evos Arts, 98 Middle St., Lowell; Keith Wasserman 978-441-1063.

Free string concert, featuring the Lichnowsky String Quartet, sponsored by the Gould Fund for the Performing and Visual Arts and part of the Topsfield Library's music series, doors open at 7 p.m., concert at 7:30 p.m., Topsfield Town Library, 1 South Common St., Topsfield; 978-887-1528.

Friday, January 23

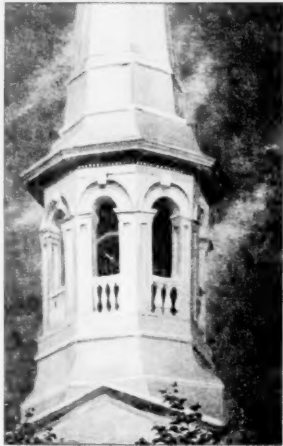
Live music, Kris Delmhurst playing "an evening of lush folk and radiant songs," 8 p.m., \$13 advance, \$15 at door, Capo's, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-5755.

Hypnotist show, featuring The Sand Man, with comedy by Andover High students kicking off the event, sponsored by the Andover Youth Council and benefits the new youth center, 8:30 p.m., Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.; 978-623-8241.

Live comedy, Dick Doherty, Danny Kelly and Mindy Fay, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Saturday, January 24

Concert, Symphony by the Sea, led by music director Jonathan McPhee, presents its third concert of the 2003-04 season, featuring the rarely performed complete score of Aaron Copland's 1945 orchestral suite, *Appalachian Spring*, and featuring Andover flutist Julia Scolnik on Joachim Rodrigo's *Fantasia for a Gentleman of Court*, 8 p.m., East India Marine Hall, Peabody Essex Museum, Liberty and Essex streets, Salem, Mass.; call for prices, tickets available by



Tonight, Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7, the Andover Historical Society will host an opening reception for the latest exhibition in its ongoing Contemporary Andover Artists Series. A selection of works created by 33 Andover High art students will be on display. Students in James Batchelder's portfolio class created works of art on paper interpreting steeples throughout Andover. The one pictured here is by Jeanne Cheng, a senior.

phone: 978-745-4955

Free Throw Shooting Contest, sponsored by Knights of Columbus, come to shoot, leave and be notified of the winning results, boys and girls divisions with ages 10-14 (as of Jan. 1), winners move on to District Finals on Feb. 1; 9 a.m.-1 p.m., K of C Council gym, 10 Brook St.; Michael Anthoine 978-470-8781.

Choose Peace and Happiness in the New Year, workshop with author Susan Reeve will focus on articulating one's peace and happiness vision, creating a peace and happiness road map, preparing for detours, and enjoying the journey; 1-3 p.m., \$25 (free book-signing, 3-3:30 p.m.), Circles of Wisdom, 90 Main St.; www.circlesofwisdom.com; 978-474-8010.

Live music, Diatribal Revenge, Electric Donkey, 9 p.m., \$5, Evos Arts, 98 Middle St., Lowell; Keith Wasserman 978-441-1063.

Live music, raffle, benefits the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen, music by Phatback, must be over 21, cover is \$5, 6-9 p.m., Claddagh Restaurant, Essex Street, Lawrence; 978-689-9483.

Live music, Swinging Steaks, 7 p.m., \$10 advance, \$12 at door, Capo's, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-5755.

Sunday, January 25

Concert, Symphony by the Sea, featuring Andover flutist Julia Scolnik on Joachim Rodrigo's *Fantasia for a Gentleman of Court*, (see Jan. 24 listing), 3 p.m., Governor Dummer Academy, One Elm St., Newbury; Continued on page 7



Jonathan McPhee (above left) is music director of Symphony by the Sea, which will present two concerts this weekend featuring Andover flutist Julia Scolnik (right).



JESSE GALLAGHER: From Nub-Tones to Apollo Sunshine

'Out here havin' fun, in the warm California sun'

By Andrea Gregory

JESSE GALLAGHER CREDITS the Andover public school system for launching him into the music world.

Gallagher, a 1998 graduate of Andover High School, is currently shooting a music video with his up-and-coming band, Apollo Sunshine, in Los Angeles. He has been on tour for six months and will be leaving the country to tour in Europe and Australia this spring.

Even with the excitement of his band taking off, however, Gallagher says he still reflects on his experience in Andover — and wishes more Andover students could have the same experience.

Gallagher was a member of the school band and orchestra. Once a member of a band called the Nub-Tones, he performed at Old Town Hall. But his talent had room to develop in Andover, he says, because he was taught during a more music-friendly time in the Andover schools. "Now, if a kid wants to get interested in music they have to do it privately," he says. "I'm not saying everyone should be a musician, but everyone should be able to feel music."

Since his high school days, he believes the music programs in the schools have largely evaporated due to budget restraints. He says the change is upsetting to him, and he believes it is foolhardy that Andover has altered such programs.

"None of the music teachers I had are there anymore. It bums me out that that's the case. They were so supportive. Now I'm doing so well," he says. "People won't really get the same chance I did."

He says he is aware of several classmates who now have successful careers in the arts, but sees the success rate of Andover graduates declining as kids go



After graduating from Andover High, Jesse Gallagher (foreground) spent a year at Berklee in Boston, where he met his future Apollo Sunshine band mates Sam Cohen (right, on guitar) and Jeremy Black (drums). Gallagher is the band's singer, bass and keyboard player.

through the school system without the solid arts curriculum it once offered.

When Gallagher graduated, he spent a year at Berklee School of Music in Boston, where he met up with band mates Sam Cohen, guitar player, and Jeremy Black, drummer. Gallagher is the singer, bass and keyboard player for Apollo Sunshine.

"We've been on tour for six months. We don't even have apartments anymore," Gallagher says. "I try to just focus as hard as I can on the music. I'm not trying to make it famous."

Gallagher says Apollo Sunshine has performed about 300 shows in the past six months. He says he's doing exactly what he wanted to do when he was in

"I'm not saying everyone should be a musician, but everyone should be able to feel music."

JESSE GALLAGHER, AHS CLASS OF '98, ON MUSIC PROGRAMS IN THE SCHOOLS DISAPPEARING BECAUSE OF BUDGET RESTRAINTS

Andover. While the band is in Los Angeles, part of his workdays include writing songs on the beach.

"I've known this is what I wanted to do since I was a kid. This is something I'll do for many years," he says.

He takes a modest approach

to the success level his band has achieved. "We haven't made it big, whatever that means," Gallagher says. "I still feel like myself. More people recognize me."

Although Gallagher has only heard himself once on the radio, he often gets calls from friends who want to tell him they just heard his band.

With a record deal, commercial air time, an album out and a video on the way, he acknowledges Apollo Sunshine is making a name for itself.

As for the band's name, Gallagher says the meaning behind it is not too deep.

"It's just kind of two words that sound good together. Apollo's the god of music, and everyone likes sunshine," he says.

For sweethearts: 'From Russia, With Love'

Seventh annual Valentine Concert from Andover Chamber Music Series

SWEETHEARTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS are invited to the Andover Chamber Music Series seventh annual Valentine Concert, "From Russia With Love," Sunday, Feb. 8, at 4 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College.

Organizers suggest treating one's valentine to "a captivating, all-Russian concert" featuring a husband-and-wife duo, pianist Max Levinson and cellist Allison Eldridge, and violinist Jennifer Frautschi.

Artistic director Julia Scolnik said, "Hailed by critics for sophistication and artistry beyond his years, Levinson was the first American ever to win the 1997 Guardian Dublin International Piano Competition."

The program will begin with

Rachmaninoff's largest and reportedly finest chamber composition, the *Sonata in G minor for cello and piano, Opus 19*.

As dark and moody as Rachmaninoff's *Second Piano Concerto*, this *Sonata* is filled with the same piano virtuosity for

which Rachmaninoff is renowned, Scolnik said.

The program will end with the melodic Tchaikovsky *Piano Trio in A minor, Op. 50*. Written in homage to another great pianist, Tchaikovsky's friend Nikolai Rubinstein, the piece contains a variety of folk melodies thought to recall a spring day when a group of peasants entertained Rubinstein and his friends with songs and dances.

Scolnik also promises two surprise guest artists ("Think Dr. Zhivago...") who she says will "set your borscht bubbling."

Tickets are \$20 and \$25. Group sales and \$8 student rush tickets are available.

Call 978 474-6222, or go to www.andoverchambermusic.org.

PA concerts honor Mozart's 248th birthday

The Phillips Academy Music Department will sponsor three concerts, free and open to the public, in celebration of Mozart's 248th birthday.

The Bala Brass Quintet will perform Friday, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Timken Room at Graves Hall featuring works of W.A. Mozart and friends.

The Academy Chamber Music Society will perform Saturday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. in the Timken Room at Graves Hall. The concert features the chamber music of Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn and Brahms.

The Andover Chamber Players will perform Sunday, Feb. 1 at 3 p.m. in Cochran Chapel. Featured on the program are Mozart's *Piano Concerto in C major, K. 415* and *Et incarnatus est* from the *Mass in C minor* with soprano, flute, oboe and bassoon soloists.

Any inquiries regarding these three concerts may be directed to the Phillips Academy Music Department by calling 978-749-4995, or e-mail music@andover.edu.

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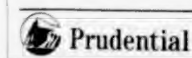
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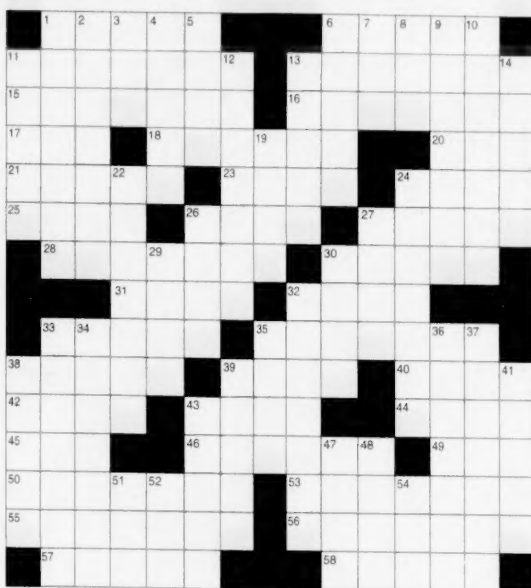
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Famous ladies, Bonheur and Parks
6. Positioned to shoot
11. Type of official
13. Dresses up
15. Rubbed out
16. Cosmetic
17. Top part; covering the chest
18. City or copy
20. VI
21. Hemorrhage
23. Fairies
24. Lacking in refinement
25. Ardor
26. Gentlemen
27. Publicizes
28. Sculptures
30. Infections
31. An electrical force linking atoms
32. Type of custody
33. Roads
35. A way to beat up
38. Rushes
39. North or South
40. Charles ___, atonal composer
42. Macaws
43. A well-defined track or path
44. An account of events
45. Pave
46. A peninsula between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf
49. Bolshevik
50. Standard or typical example



53. Copyreading
55. In a way, spells
56. To notch or form sawlike teeth
57. Tuberous roots
58. Hebrew letters

CLUES DOWN

1. Replenishes

2. Strikingly unconventional
3. A very large body of water
4. In a way, bent
5. Anything that provides an inspiration for later work
6. Aces
7. Belonging to a thing
8. Twitch

9. Expiration
10. Mocks
11. Jewish spiritual leader
12. Instructed in spiritual improvement
13. Dialects of the Taiwanese and Hokkianeses
14. Single-reed instruments
19. Mariners
22. In a way, aids
24. Cheese dish
26. Tans
27. Cold wind
29. In a way, touches
30. Particular instance of selling
32. A group of islands between Asia and Australia
33. A low wall
34. Egg-shaped terra-cotta instrument
35. ___ fide (Latin)
36. Type of cancer
37. Yields
38. Judged
39. Peels
41. Bog plant
43. Cripples
47. The content of cognition
48. Like clouds
51. Hill (Celtic)
52. Word element meaning ear
54. Denotes three

EVENTS CALENDAR

■ JAN. 22 THRU FEB. 1

Continued from page 6

call for prices, tickets sold exclusively through the Firehouse Center for the Arts, One Market Square, Newburyport. 978-462-7336.

Guest exhibit curator Barbara Brown will discuss the research she undertook to create the Andover Historical Society's current exhibit, "Lucy's Acre: A Place in Time," a multi-faceted look at a single acre of land, exploring changes documented through archaeological, historical and geographical research and evidence. 2 p.m., \$5 (includes the exhibit) for Historical Society members, \$10 for non-members; Andover Historical Society and Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236, www.andhist.org.

Discussion on death, sponsored by Merrimack Valley Hospice and H.L. Farmer and Sons Bethany Bereavement Center, with psychotherapist, grief counselor and author Ashley D. Prend, ACSW, 3:30 p.m., West Congregational Church, Haverhill; 978-552-4748 to register.

House tour, sponsored by the Lowell National Historical Park, 2:30 p.m., free, tour the home of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, 79 Dutton St., Lowell; 978-970-5000.

Opening reception, *Spars*, a sculptural



A sculptural exhibition by Richard Keen titled "Spars" will run through Feb. 25 in the McCoy Gallery at Merrimack College. An opening reception will be held this Sunday, Jan. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is welcome. Keen's sculptural installation utilizes 100 different spars — marine logs used to replace mooring buoys in the winter — which are either stacked horizontally in two different rugged wooden structures, leaned against the walls or attached to paintings with floating line, chain and shackles.

tural exhibition by Richard Keen, 2-4 p.m., McCoy Gallery at The Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

SOLUTION ON PAGE 9

Monday, January 26

No events scheduled.

Tuesday, January 27

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, January 28

Lecture, on alternative medical treatments for pets, sponsored by Alternative Veterinary Services, free, 7-9 p.m., 9 Hodges St., North Andover, no pets; 978-683-5775, www.allvetservices.com.

Live music, The Folken Word, open mic with Joe Keenan, 8 p.m., Capo's, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-5755.

Thursday, January 29

Live music, Ryan Montbeau Band, 8 p.m., 58, Capo's, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-5755.

Live music, Lyrical Battleground: Hosted by Lyrical, 9 p.m., \$5, over 21, Evos Arts, 98 Middle St., Lowell; Keith Wasserman 978-441-1063.

Friday, January 30

Concert, Bala Brass Quintet, sponsored by Phillips Academy Music Department as one of three con-

Continued on page 8

ENTERING ANDOVER

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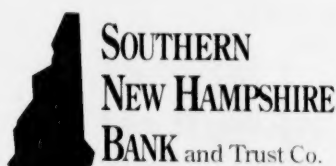
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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ JAN. 22 THRU FEB. 1

Continued from page 7

certs in celebration of Mozart's 248th birthday, featuring works of W.A. Mozart and friends; 7:30 p.m., free and open to the public, Timken Room, Graves Hall, Phillips Academy, 180 Main St.; 978-749-4995 or music@andover.edu.

International Guitar Night, a forum with original players/composers in concert, \$15 advance, \$18 door, 7:30 p.m., Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College; 978-837-5355, www.merrimack.edu/rogers.

Opening Luau celebration kicks off "Taste of Hawaii" weekend at American Textile History Museum's *Let's Go Hawaiian* exhibition, featuring authentic luau food samplings (poi, kalua pig and lomi lomi salmon), hula, island breeze-like music and chants; exhibition is a fanciful exploration of the fascination with Hawaii, its influence on mainstream culture, and a playful look at the cult of the Hawaiian shirt; more than 125 classic and contemporary shirts, most originating from the collection of Gary Moss, picture Hawaii's history, the beauty of its landscape, its popular culture, and lure as a tourist resort; entertainment by Boston's WAITI-KI exotica band, and a special viewing of the *Let's Go Hawaiian* exhibition, Hawaiian shirts and tropical attire are encouraged, tickets \$40, \$30 for members; 6:30 to 9 p.m.; 978-441-0400 Ext. 246, or e-mail acox@athm.org.

Opening reception, Richard Serra: Large Scale Prints, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy, corner of Rte. 28 and Chapel Avenue; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

Live music, Mark Erelli, CD release, 8 p.m., \$10 advance, \$12 door, Capo's, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-453-5755.

Live music, Bonzia, Dr. Professor, 9 p.m., \$5, over 21, Evos Arts, 98 Middle St., Lowell; Keith Wasserman 978-441-1063.

Live comedy, Dick Doherty, Mike Fahey and Tom Dustin, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Saturday, January 31

Eco-Tracking Prints in the Snow, Harold Rafton Reservation, leader is David Brown, \$16, 9-11 a.m., park on High Plain Road, across from leaf composting area, sponsored by Department of Community Services; 978-623-8274.

National Marionette Theatre, Sleeping Beauty, \$10 or \$35 for four, 2 p.m., The Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College; 978-837-5355, www.merrimack.edu/rogers.

Quilt lecture, Contemporary Art & Quilts, kicks off new quilt exhibit called *Time Squared: Art Quilts by the Manhattan Quilters Guild*, \$5, \$4 seniors, students, 1 p.m., New England Quilt Museum, Lowell; www.nequiltmuseum.org.

Concert, Academy Chamber Music Society, sponsored by Phillips Academy Music Department as one of three concerts in celebration of Mozart's 248th birthday, featuring



Aloha! - Looking for palm trees, sand and bright colors this winter? A lush new special exhibition, *Let's Go Hawaiian*, opens next Saturday, Jan. 31 at the American Textile History Museum with all the fun and fantasy of a tropical paradise, and transports visitors to the Hawaiian Islands through the textile art of Hawaiian shirts, most originating from the collection of Gary Moss. Bold patterns and color combinations are printed on rayon, cotton and silk fabrics. Motifs with retro details of sea life, beach, recreation, floral, fruit, and foliage designs illustrate the heritage of the Hawaiian islands and its friendly, relaxed lifestyle.

the chamber music of Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn and Brahms; 7 p.m., free and open to the public, Timken Room, Graves Hall, Phillips Academy, 180 Main St.; 978-749-4995 or music@andover.edu.

Concert, "Dreams and Transformations" with pianist Claude Frank, presented by the New England String Ensemble, led by music director/conductor Susan Davenney Wyner, the orchestra will perform the *Elgar Introduction and Allegro*, Richard Strauss' *Prelude to Capriccio*, Mozart's *Piano Concerto in A major* with Claude Frank, and the world premiere of David Rakowski's *Dream Symphony*; 8 p.m. (preconcert "behind the scene" talk at 7 p.m. with Rakowski), \$30, seniors and students \$22, the Rogers Center at Merrimack College, North Andover; 781-224-1117 or www.newenglandstringensemble.org.

Lecture, Sassafras to Sarsaparilla: How Medicinal Plants Brought Millions of Dollars to Lowell, sponsored by the Lowell National Historical Park, 2:30 p.m., free, limit 30, meet at the Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St., Lowell; 978-970-5000.

Gender Free Contra Dance, sponsored by the Ivy Chord Coffee House, \$5 or \$15 for family, instruction at 7 p.m., dancing from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading, 239 Woburn St., Reading; 781-229-9394, www.uucr@uureading.org.

Workshop, Our Children and Psychotropic Drugs, with Karen Faulke, RNCS of Psychiatric Management in Lawrence and Willows Associates of North Andover, sponsored by Grandparents as Parents,

free, 10 a.m.-noon, St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 114 S. Broadway, Lawrence; 978-459-3242 to register and ensure child care.

Live music, The Broken Toys, 9 p.m., \$5, over 21, Evos Arts, 98 Middle St., Lowell; Keith Wasserman 978-441-1063.

Live comedy, Dick Doherty, Mike Fahey and Tom Dustin, \$12, 9:30 p.m., Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Sunday, February 1

Go Hawaiian Family Day, part of "Taste of Hawaii" weekend at American Textile History Museum's *Let's Go Hawaiian* exhibition, food tastings of authentic island specialties, fun for all ages, highlights of the day include special musical performances and hula instruction by the Akamai Brain Collective of Boston (below) and the Boston Hawaiian Club, WODS-FM/Oldies 103.3 will be onsite with on-air personality Paula Street giving away prizes, playing games and spinning sounds of the '60s and '70s; family fun in the Textile Learning Center includes Hawaiian-themed activities and play area, and an exhibit from the Kamehameha Schools in Hawaii; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Special Family Day admission \$10 for adults; \$5 for children; \$30 for a family package of two adults and up to four children; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Special Family Day admission \$10 for adults; \$5 for children; \$30 for a family package of two adults and up to four children.



Akamai Brain Collective

dren; special member prices are \$4 for adults; \$1 for children; \$10 for family package of two adults and up to four children; American Textile History Museum, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; 978-441-0400 or www.athm.org.

Concert, Andover Chamber Players, sponsored by Phillips Academy Music Department as one of three concerts in celebration of Mozart's 248th birthday, featured on the program are Mozart's *Piano Concerto in C major*, K. 415 and *Et incarnatus est* from the *Mass in C minor* with soprano, flute, oboe and bassoon soloists; 3 p.m., free and open to the public, Cochran Chapel, Chapel Avenue, Phillips Academy campus, Main Street; 978-749-4995 or music@andover.edu.

Ongoing Art Exhibitions

Addison Gallery of American Art, Richard Serra Prints: A Survey, through March 29, opening reception Jan. 30, 5:30-7:30 p.m., gallery hours Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m., Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

Alpers Fine Art of Andover, gallery hours; Wednesday and Thursdays 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 2 Main St.; 978-470-0013.

Andover Historical Society, artist Doug Johnson; exhibits *Lucy's Acre: A Place in Time*, and selection of works created by Andover High School art students will be on display in the Reception Gallery through March, tour the Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum for a glimpse into life in the early 19th century, Tuesday through Friday 1-4 p.m., \$5 admission, students \$3, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236, www.andhist.org.

Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology, Objects and their Meanings: Historical Highlights of the Peabody, displays ethnographic objects from the museum's collections of North and South America and a series of photographs that illustrate the activities of the museum's key people during the last century; Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m., by appointment only, free admission, Phillips Academy campus, 175 Main St.; 978-749-4490.

Essex Art Center, Opening, through Feb. 20, Beland Gallery installation by Liz Sweibel, Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 56 Island St., Lawrence; 978-685-2343.

Arthur Griffin Center for Photographic Art, Main Gallery: 10th Juried Exhibit, through Feb. 27, Tuesday-Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., \$5 admission, Thursday admission is free all day, 67 Shore Road, Winchester; 781-729-1158, www.griffinmuseum.org.

Brush Art Gallery, hours Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 256 Market St., Lowell; 978-459-7819.

McCoy Gallery, Merrimack College; sculptural exhibition, *Spars*, by Richard Keen, through Feb. 25, hours Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4

Continued on page 9

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EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING

Continued from page 8

p.m., free admission; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

Whistler House Museum of Art, Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., \$4, 243 Worthen St., Lowell; 978-452-7641.

Sakowich Campus Center, at Merrimack College, the Fireside and First floor lounges, call for hours; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

McQuade Gallery, gallery hours Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; closed weekends in January; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

Revolving Museum, through April 2, LocalMotive: Gallery Exhibit, indoor gallery space will be transformed into an interactive exhibit celebrating the wonders of the natural world. Audiences will be taken on a journey through a variety of innovative artworks that explore issues like pollution control and spirituality through nature, artist-driven museum, dedicated to presenting public art, exhibitions, educational programs, gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday noon-4 p.m., 22 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-937-2787.

J. David Broudo Gallery of Art, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Endicott College, 376 Hale St. (Route 127) Beverly; 978-232-2250.

Montserrat College of Art Gallery, Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, noon-4 p.m., 23 Essex St., Beverly; 978-921-4242.

Senior Center artists, talented artists

participate in art classes and enjoy the "drop-in group" on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, art display of oils, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink, pastels and oriental brush art is in the Music Room; Andover Senior Center, Whittier Court; 978-623-8321.

Memorial Hall Library, Artist of the Month series features Deborah Grubbs, watercolors, Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m.; 978-623-8400, www.mnhl.org.

Flint Memorial Library, 147 Park St., North Reading; 978-664-4942, www.flintmemoriallibrary.org.

Churchill Gallery, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sunday, 12:30-5:30 p.m., 6 Inn St., Newburyport, 978-462-9891.

The State of the Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden, Rocky Neck Art Colony, Gloucester; 978-463-8883.

Cape Ann Historical Museum, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 27 Pleasant St., Gloucester; 978-283-0455.

The Saltbox Gallery, cooperative of 17 artists from the North Shore, January exhibit is "Seeing Red" featuring oil, acrylic and watercolor paintings; Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; 49 Main St., Topsfield; 978-887-3844.

Laura Coombs Hills Gallery, Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., 60 Water St., Newburyport; 978-465-8769, www.newburyportart.org.

Mingo Gallery, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 252 Cabot St., Beverly 978-927-5964.

Nevins Memorial Hall, 305 Broad-



Featured in the musical "Man of La Mancha" at the Amesbury Playhouse are (from left) Barry Doucette of Lowell and Michael Barczak of Haverhill. The show runs through Jan. 25. Call 978-388-9444 for reservations.

way, Methuen; 978-686-4080.

Arlington Center for the Arts, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., 41 Foster St., Arlington.

Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, Beauty of Winter, through Feb. 28; East Gallery: The Unexpected Aviary, Patricia and Stephen Giannotti, through Feb. 1; Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday,

noon-4 p.m., 136 State St., Portsmouth, N.H., 603-431-4230.

Gelb Gallery at Phillips Academy, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday, noon-4 p.m.; 978-475-4419.

Bravos Arts Gallery, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., One East Main St., Georgetown; 978-352-8102.

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Education

ON CAMPUS

Andover resident **Joan Cannon**, associate professor of psychology at UMass Lowell, was awarded the 2003 Departmental Teaching Award.

Cannon has served the university for 33 years, as a member of both the faculty and the administration. She recently developed an online course in personality psychology and an accompanying book, *Personality Psychology: Insights, Issues, Case Histories and Applications*. She also serves as faculty adviser to Psi Chi, the national honor society in psychology.

Emily Gentile of Andover is a first-year student at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley.

Gentile, the daughter of Jo-Dee and Ralph Gentile of Andover, is a graduate of Andover High School.

Gentile's extracurricular activities included photography, playing varsity soccer and track, singing with the glee club and choir, and serving as a teaching assistant in physical education. In the community, she volunteered with Andover Youth Services and was a member of vocal, handbell, and ensemble choirs in a local church.

She plans to pursue a course of study at Mount Holyoke that will prepare her for a career in teaching at the secondary level.

Nima Ashkeboussi, formerly of Andover, has earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Maryland at College Park. He is employed at the headquarters of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission in Rockville, Md.

Leila Ashkeboussi, also formerly of Andover, has been admitted to the 2004-05 freshman class at the School of Engineering and Applied Science at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Brian Buckley of Bradley Road was selected to participate in the National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC) in Washington, D.C. from Nov. 18 to Nov. 23. NYLC is a leadership-development program for high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit.

Buckley was one of approximately 350 scholars from around the country at the conference.

The theme of NYLC is The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today. Throughout six days, Buckley will interact with key elected officials, political appointees and newsmakers in an exploration of the three branches of government, the news media, and the international community.

Nominated to attend this conference by Andover High School teacher Dolores Dunning, Buckley is an honor-roll student and a co-captain of the AHS hockey and baseball teams. He is an MVC all-star in both sports and a two time American Legion baseball all star.

On Oct. 12, the MassSTAR (Massachusetts Students Accepting Responsibility) Foundation presented four groups of high school students with \$1,000 each as part of its Citizenship Grant Program.

The grant program is designed to develop creative solutions to fit community needs while fostering citizenship among high school sophomores. Alumni of the MassSTAR Program apply for grants to fund proposals of their own design. Grants are awarded based on a project's feasibility and community impact. MassSTAR provides support, advice, and funding to help implement the proposals.

Andover public school students **Tracy O'Malley**, **Christina Casey**, **Monica Chung**, **Caitlin Feeney**, **Margot Ryan** and **Christian Bishop** were awarded funding to create a swim team for the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence. The swim team will compete with other Boys and Girls Clubs.

Jake T. Allard, a student at Andover High School, recently completed Leadership Challenge Weekend held Nov. 14-16, at Norwich University in Northfield, Vt. The two day program is designed to expose college-bound students to a military college and university life, while providing a worthwhile leadership experience through the development of individual leadership skills, self-confidence and teamwork. Students learn how to become part of a team, communicate effectively, lead and follow. The program included a Leadership Reaction Course, leadership classes, physical-fitness training, climbing wall, water survival and an effective communications class.



Jake T. Allard

Calif.

Forty educators from across the state have been named the first-ever recipients of the state's Distinguished Secondary Educators Award for their accomplishments in the classroom and contributions to the profession.

Recipients were nominated secretly by their peers.

The 2003 Distinguished Secondary Educators include **Craig Simpson** of Andover.

This is the first year the award has been given out. It was started by the Department of Education to recognize secondary educators from across the state for exemplary instructional practices, inspiring work, and ability to motivate their students, colleagues, and community.

Continued on page 12

Andover High to hire more teachers

Anderson: Jobs could end in June

By Ben Hellman

Andover High School Principal Peter Anderson has decided to add 4.5 positions – not the seven previously discussed – to create classes that will help the school add more hours of class time for students.

The application process for the jobs ended on Monday and teachers could start in February. However, Anderson is warning applicants their positions could be eliminated after June.

The Massachusetts Department of Education mandates that schools offer students 990 hours in the classroom. This semester, which will end this month, the average Andover High student received only 868 hours. As a result, the state insisted Andover create a plan to deal with the problem.

The plan Superintendent Claudia Bach sent to the DOE as a result said Andover would add seven teachers at AHS for the second half of the school year, at an estimated cost of \$150,875. Adding seven teachers was meant to allow Andover to offer students 931 hours of class time. Then, her plan called for Andover to have a total of 16 more teachers next year, to give AHS students the required 990 hours.

The School Committee planned to meet with DOE officials this

Continued on page 12



Carol Martini explains to phys ed students how "mat ball," a game similar to baseball, builds teamwork and respect for others at Andover High on Tuesday, Jan. 20. AHS students' preferences could lead to another phys ed teacher being hired by Feb. 1.

WHAT'S UP

'Open campus' or new exam schedule?

By Kyra Auffermann

What's Up intern

ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL will implement an alternative exam schedule for the final days of first semester, next Wednesday, Jan. 28 through Friday, Jan. 30. While most students refer to the arrangement as "open campus," the plan is for students to have two long periods for exams and one other class per day.

Students who do not have an exam or class scheduled for one of these blocks will be allowed to leave campus.

Parents of Andover High students will receive a letter regarding the schedule by the end of this week.

AHS administrators believe the new schedule will raise the stature of semester exams, give more consistency to the test days and create an atmosphere conducive to testing. This arrangement will also help educators manage end-of-each-semester work, such as recollecting and distributing more than 2,000 textbooks. Principal Peter Anderson called the faculty's reaction to the schedule "very positive," and he has not encountered any opposition to this plan, which has been under consideration for several years. This year's schedule is as "open" as the Andover High campus intends to become, he said.

AHS teacher George Sullivan supports the idea, saying, "As a teacher, it's not about trying to get out of anything. It's a waste of

time (to keep students in school) when students could be studying.

"In reality, (teachers have to) show a movie to keep classes busy," he said. "This teaches some independence."

"It works well for seniors and juniors with cars – but it doesn't provide an advantage for everyone else," said senior Adrienne Hinds. "I only get one block off (because of my schedule)."

The students stranded at school are less excited, although many report planning to use a car pool or "mooch" a ride when they have a study hall scheduled.

Although the day will be over by 1:30 p.m., bus schedules will remain the same. Students who are unable to leave the campus will remain in supervised study areas until their buses arrive.

"I think it'll be better next year when I can drive," said sophomore Ashley Ahern, "but now I just have to wait around."

Overall, most students are enthusiastic about the alternative schedule. Lauren Vieira, a senior, said, "I think it's a good thing because it tests the students' responsibility – I hope it works."

Students with academically lighter course loads will be able to leave school for longer amounts of time. Every student – and most teachers – appreciate that there won't be busywork given to students after exams are over. Jack Barrett, a senior, said, "I'm happy because I don't have any classes after

Thursday."

A similar schedule was instituted in the late '90s, according to AHS teacher and former principal Tim Thomas. "In the past, it was nice to have the kids focus on exams rather than worry about their classes," he said, "although it may take a little getting used to."

Anderson hopes discipline problems that could arise from this situation will be curbed by strict regulations: students are not allowed in the hallways during exams, and students who are late for their scheduled test will be have to retake the exam during an allotted time on Friday.

Anderson is optimistic about the schedule, observing, "My sense of kids in this school is that when they are allotted more responsibility, they've responded to that responsibility."

Some kids remain somewhat apathetic. "I don't think it's that great. You still have to go to classes. I like that I get to sleep in and leave early – but it's overrated," commented junior Jimmy Grieve.

Several students criticize the arrangement because teachers are using this opportunity to give a test when there wouldn't have been one before. Matt Teperow, a junior, said this schedule, "doesn't do much to help you study because it's all at the end of the week, not the beginning." Freshman Nathaniel Gentile, however, points out that "you can cram" using the extra time.

BOOK REVIEW

Artemis Fowl: The Eternity Code

BY EOIN COLFER

Reviewed by John Chartier and James Caron

This week, 14-year-old Andover residents John and James review a book for young readers who enjoy fantasy novels.

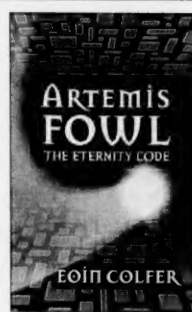
THE POPULAR ARTEMIS FOWL series has taken off during the past few years, but the third book fails to capture the zip of the previous two.

The *Eternity Code*'s predecessors, *Artemis Fowl*, and, more recently, *The Arctic Incident*, are both well written and intriguing. They tell the story of Artemis, a boy genius born into a criminal dynasty. His family is among the richest in all of Ireland, and its motto states "Gold is Power." Through a course of events, Artemis discovers the existence of fairies. The first two books describe Artemis's dealings with the fairy world in some very creative and interesting ways. As for *The Eternity Code*, that's another story.

The *Eternity Code* is author Eoin

Colfer's desperate attempt to make the original two-book set into a trilogy. It is not well thought out, and introduces several characters out of the blue. Within the first 100 pages, the author does little more than describe how Artemis' bodyguard was killed and then was raised from the dead by fairy magic.

As you can see, this can be adequately described in one sentence. After the initial fight scene in which the bodyguard is killed, the reader sees no real further action until page 133, when someone breaks into Fowl Manor. The unbearably slow pace of the beginning leads into the rushed body of the book and, finally, to a drawn-out ending. The body of the story consists of a contrived break in at a company that had stolen fairy technology, the "C Cube." Then it describes how the people break into a vault to get the "C Cube." By this point the reader is left wondering, "Why do we care about this thing and any of these people?" The conclusion reveals the proud owner of



the "C Cube," imprisoned for yet another break in. It starts to seem like the book is repeating itself over and over. Most readers should stop reading at this point. We don't really know what happens after this, because we were distracted by the relative excitement of growing grass outside.

The *Eternity Code* seems to drag on and on for an eternity. Readers should not be seduced by the shiny cover on this dull book, because they'll be sorry. The best part about *The Eternity Code* is the title. It would have been even better if the writer had used those two words once in the story, or if anyone knew what the code was.

We give *The Eternity Code* a rating of four out of 10. Readers who enjoyed the first two Artemis Fowl books should stick to them and not waste their time with this one. Sometimes an author has to know when to call it quits with a story. Colfer needs to learn when to just say, "And they lived happily ever after. The end."

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LOCAL SCHOLARS

Pike School students named to first-term honor roll

Pike School has named the following students to the honor roll for the fall term:

HIGH HONORS

GRADE 9
Susannah Poland
Corbin Tognoni

GRADE 8
Christian Anderson
Jessica Cole
Lydia Dallett
Caitlin Feeney
Anna Harrington
Wendy Mellin
Erika Mitkus
Lucian Neville
Jessica Waters
Jordan Zanazzi

GRADE 7
Emme Amzen

Sara Finkle
Anne Glancy
Peter Ly
Greta Martin
Cassie McManus
Michaela Miragliotta
Ryan Morris
Jim Ricker
Molly Rountree
Hanna Rutter Gully
Jen Samel
Erica Segall
Paul Spada
Parker Washburn
Zoe Weinberg
Robert Whirly
Lauren Wilmarth

GRADE 6
Kaitlyn Barnett
Lara Bhawala
Shane Bouchard
Kelly Comolli
Shannon Comolli
Rainer Crosetti

David Dlesk
Zainab Doctor
Amanda Doodlesack
Hilary Evans
Hilary Greene
Julie Helmers
Ryan McKinnon
Mari Miyachi
Marina Moschitto
Carly Rau
Sarah Reilly
Alexa Samanian
Gregory Serrao
Samuel Grant
Luke Harmeling
John-Henry Heckendorn
Addison Hunt
Jennifer Hyslip
Hannah Jeton
William Kavanagh
Kevin Kress
Matthew Krzywicki
Max LeSaffre
Nicholas Letwin
Elizabeth MacMillan
Piers MacNaughton

HONORS:

GRADE 9
Cassie Aponas
Erica Bibby
Robert Farnham
Amy Hilman

Joceline Liriano

GRADE 8

Julian Azaret
Chelsea Barnett
Jamie Berman
James Campbell
Michael Collins
Alexandra Comolli
Sarah Cutts
Marissa Ferrante
Caroline Gerber
Samuel Grant
Luke Harmeling
John-Henry Heckendorn
Addison Hunt
Jennifer Hyslip
Hannah Jeton
William Kavanagh
Kevin Kress
Matthew Krzywicki
Max LeSaffre
Nicholas Letwin
Elizabeth MacMillan
Piers MacNaughton

Conor McKinnon

Michael Morris
Anna O'Neal
Hannah Ornell
Trevor Poole
Andrew Riedell
Kate Rokos
Nisreen Dahod
Scott Dzialo
Daniel Eisenberg
Noah Feldman
Zachary Feldman
Emma Goldstein
Spencer Harkins
Allison Katz
Bernard Leed
Cassie MacInnes
Kate Majike
Hallie Malitsky
Alexander Matses
Timothy McGrath
James Miller
Christopher Newsome
Sinead Oliver
Gabe Orlovitz
Alina Pechacek

GRADE 7
Jamie Aponas
Ross Barman
Annie Barron

Liza Brecher
Carolyn Calabrese
Elizabeth Cieri
Tyler Clark
Alex Cope
Nisreen Dahod
Scott Dzialo
Daniel Eisenberg
Noah Feldman
Zachary Feldman
Emma Goldstein
Spencer Harkins
Allison Katz
Bernard Leed
Cassie MacInnes
Kate Majike
Hallie Malitsky
Alexander Matses
Timothy McGrath
James Miller
Christopher Newsome
Sinead Oliver
Gabe Orlovitz
Alina Pechacek

Nick Poland
Leah Psinos
Zack Rokos
Anise Saab
Eric Stephens
Rosa Valentin
Victoria Wilmarth
Audrey Wilson

GRADE 6

Taylor Angles
Anne Arnzen
Talene Bilazanian
Cameron Brien
Sarah Clarkson
Taylor Colliton
Benjamin Corman
Kylie Doherty
Meredith Farahmand
Anne Catherine Feldman
Mary French
Christine Gaglia
Alice Grant
Frances Hamilton
Tennysen Hunt

Penelope Jones
Caroline Leed
Alexander Letwin
Michael Levenson
Cecchi MacNaughton
Kathryn Morenc
Taggart Muggia
Morgan Pearo
Cameron Poole
Vinay Rajur
Spenser Rose
Erik Scott
Sahil Singha
Naomi Smith
Peter Thompson
Liam White
James Yuschik

Fall honor-roll students announced at Doherty

Doherty Middle School has named the following students to the honor roll for the fall term:

Grade 8

HIGH HONORS
Ian Accomando
Emily Barker
Sophia Brower
Robert Buka
Mary Burke
Jonlars Carlson
Evan Carter
Nathan Casto
Derek Cerchione
Yilan Chen
Eric Chu
Ellen Cody
Kyle Conlon
Matthew Cranney
Veronica D'Ambr
Justin Defrancisco
Thomas Demers
Catherine Desjardins
Michael Donelan
Alyssa Geary
Devin Geary
Virginia Gibson
Andrew Gilboard
Jesse Goldman
Steven Goldsheim
Sarah Gordon
Hannah Gravius
Kirstin Heinrich
Kevin Hitchko
Hannah Hoerner
Carolyn Ingraham
Joshua Jacobs
Jonelle Johnson
Philip Johnson
Victoria Kellman
Robert King
Cara Lemire
Shir Levkowitz
Christopher Long
Cameron Lownie
Kevin Mancinelli
Christopher McDonough
Shawna McKenzie

Emily McLaughlin
James Merrill
Jonathan Morgan
Patricia Morin
Daniel Norton
Kaitlin Picard
Nicholas Platt
Daniel Pouliot
Molly Prudden
Matthew Rayner
Kaitlyn Riley
Benjamin Rosenzweig
Katherine Rouff
Stacey Saba
Peter Saunders
Elizabeth Sherman
Brian Spurr
George Stevens
Bryan Strock
Daniel Sullivan
Daria Tchessalova
Kelsey Thom
Adam Trotta
Anne Tucker
Matthew Turiano
Ariel Twohig
Christopher Valteau
Peter Webster
Rachel Wetmore
Joseph Wilkin
Hong-Ming Xiao
Sarah York
Katherine Zimmerman

HONORS

Michelle Angelosanto
Kurt Berthiaume
Shannon Burke
Kathleen Cheney
John Christoforo
Lauren Colby
Kasey Cook
Emily Cratty
Kelsey Crowther
Laura Davis
Corey Desjardins
Paul Farnham
Jessica Forster
Matthew Frykenberg
Nicole Gagnon
Jennifer George

Alexander Herlich
Peter Hitchko
Christopher Kapp
Kathleen Kelly
Benjamin Lang
Kasey Leung
Gavin Lynch
Tali McCabe
Rocco Monaco
Christina Muccio
Hilary Nadworny
Elizabeth O'Connor
Daniel Peters
Scott Pilla
Zoe Porter
Michael Qin
Jennifer Quinlan
Gregory Ragnio
Ritik Ray
Fiona Rice
Ashley Saffer
Joel Scibarrasi
Gabriel Siegel
Anne Tucker
Alexander Svec
Jaclyn Sweeney
Julie Walsh
Michael Weisenhoff
Drew Williams
Elizabeth Williams
Jason Yu

Grade 7

HIGH HONORS
Alexandra Abisso
Jennifer Angell
Rebecca Bendetson
Nicole Cahill
Laura Cody
Jacquelyn Collins
Caroline Colombo
Abigail Cook
Molly Corcoran
Meagan Deyermund
John Diodati
Hannah Fitzpatrick
Jessica Frey
Hope Fried
Ryan Furlong
Emma Gendlerman

Jonathan Graham
John Haak
Christine Harvey
Shebby Horn
Alexandra Hsu
Carl Jackson
Rebecca Johnson
Michael Kaluzny
Rudhi Karnik
Christina Kempster
Melissa Knapp
Jennifer Koffman
Kelly Kropiwinski
Theodore Lederfine-Paskal
Auden Lincoln-Vogel
Adriana Lucchi
Andrew Lyman
Elizabeth Malone
Brian Mason
Kerry McCarthy
Leah McKnight
Stephen Moore
Jessica Morrow
Laura Murray
Victoria Norris
Joshua Petter
Bowen Qiu
Hilary Rich
Molly Rodin
Rachel Rutledge
Elizabeth Scoble
Sophia Shimer
Sanjay Singh
Cameron Smith
Molly Smith
Andrew Speen
John Tassinari
Joshua Torres
Stephanie Torres
Kayla Walsh
William Wilkin
Ian Wollman
Andi Zhou

HONORS

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Hannah Bardo
Lauren Blaxter
Emily Blech
Brendan Crawford
Alex Daley

Bryce Davidson
Joshua Devine
Janelle Driscoll
Alexandru Dumitrescu
Sean Ehlbeck
Grant Evans
George Flanagan
Sarah Hamilton
Collin Hart
Gary Hinds
Robert Hodge
Taylor Ientile
Jennifer Johnson
Jonah Kelman
Eve Kenneally
David Keohane
Michelle Laracy
Regina Larose
Matthew Lieder
Rebecca Lindmark
Jake McCoy
Mary McQuillen
Maria McSheehy
Victoria Mueck
Samir Naili
Matthew Newman
Brittany Peck
Nicholas Petrillo
Elijah Petter
Matthew Quartararo
Austin Reed
Daniel Schadlick
Richard Shanahan
Colleen Shannon
Samantha Shea
Gabriel Shipon
Lucy Silverman
Samantha Skistimas
Molly Stolberg
Alexandra Strock
Christopher Sullivan
Emily Swapp
Nicholas Sylvester
Adam Taylor
Rachael Trotta
Matthew Vetere
Eric Walther-Grant
Erin Woodbury

Grade 6

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Camille Black
James Brenner
Grant Evans
Julia Caffrey
Olivia Caradonio
Courtney Casper
Christopher Chu
Matthew Cohen
Sheila Cremin
David Daniels
Thomas Fuerst
Jennifer Garvin
Elizabeth Gilbert
Nicole Giroux
Connor Hagan
Alexandra Hall
Gregory Hanafin
Emily Hook
Paul Hunter
Caroline Kaufman
Matthew Kelley
Katherine Knowles
Noah Kurinsky
Joseph Kuta
Elizabeth Le Cain
Celia Lewis
Allyson Long
Clare Ma
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Catherine McLaughlin
Martin Murphy
Jessica Musto
Brendan O'Donnell
Caroline O'Sullivan
Zachary Pantely
Devi Patel
Alexander Patti
John Perrone
Catherine Rayner
Weston Rogers
Vanessa Singleton
Charles Smith
Victoria Spagnuolo
Katherine Svec
Colin Trepicchio
Molly Trerotola
John Turiano
Molly Van Doren

Laura Van Drie
Katherine Voorhees
John Wurts
Sierra Zwierling

HONORS

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Michael Bernier
Noah Besen
Tara Biron
Tyler Blake
Tyler Bond
Nicholas Booth
Anthony Broccoli
Hilary Brownson
Alicia Bursey
Matthew Byrne
Stephen Carey
Matthew Carroll
Cabra Casey
Margaret Christoforo
Robert Collins
Daniel Colombo
Zachary Costello
Keanan Crawford
Holly Currier
Nicholas Curtin
Brianna Deyermund
John Fiorentino
Jane Floyd
Alyson Formichella
Matthew Gadziala
Dennis Gallant
Natalie Gibson
Benjamin Gikow
Samuel Hatch
Joshua Holzman
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Brian Martin
Emma McCabe
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Neil Murphy
Paige Murray
Kylie Nagy
Rie Nawata
Ali Nickpour
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From left: Kim Lacharite, Dave Trask, and Ruth Gagnon

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Over the years they have added stores in Salem, NH, Bradford and their most recent store, Interiors by White Street in North Andover.

All of their stores carry Benjamin Moore Paints, Pittsburgh Paints, California Paints, Wilber & Williams High Performance Coatings, Cabot stains, and Sikens interior and exterior finishes. The staff is happy to custom blend paint colors to match your wallpaper or fabric.

The large selection of in-stock and special order wallcoverings, includes the latest from designers such as Laura Ashley, Albert Van Luit, Katzenbach-Warren, and many others. In-store decorating consultants can assist you in choosing paint, faux finishes, wallcoverings, and window treatments. By appointment they will

come to your home to help you with your decorating needs.

White Street Paint and Wallpaper is located at 15 Broadway (Rte. 28 and Essex St.), Lawrence. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7a.m.-5p.m., Sat. 8a.m.-4p.m. Telephone: 978-688-6078 and 978-683-8694

The Salem store is located at 419 So. Broadway (Rte. 28 across from Circuit City). Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. 7a.m.-5p.m., Tues. and Thurs. until 8p.m., Sat. 8a.m.-5p.m., and Sun. noon-5p.m. Telephone: 603-890-5345 or 5346.

The Bradford store is located at 199 So. Main St. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7a.m.-5p.m. and Sat. until 3p.m. Telephone: 978-3744320

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Our newest location is White Street Paint, 66 East Main Street, Georgetown, MA 978-352-7337.

ON CAMPUS

■ ANDOVER STUDENTS

Continued from page 10

Alfred State College hosted a debate on American foreign policy earlier this month, where debaters and their researchers culled from across campus programs addressed questions on the topics of the legitimate use of military force and the role of international institutions. Questions from a diverse audience of students, faculty, and staff were entertained.

The student participants included Julie Shaw of Andover, a liberal arts and sciences student studying math

and science.

After the panel debate, the audience had an opportunity to ask questions and make statements to the panel.

This debate was part of *The People Speak: America Debates Its Role in the World*, a nationwide event of a thousand debates taking place in hundreds of locations around the country. The program is jointly funded by the Open Society Institute, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and the United Nations Foundation, as part of their ongoing missions to support grassroots community involvement in foreign policy.

Benjamin J. Wish of Andover participated in the fall semester in Russia program offered by Bates College in Lewiston, Maine.

Wish was one of 13 students in the Russian program. Bates students enrolled in this program study in St. Petersburg, the cultural epicenter of Russia, and reside with Russian families in the city. Since no prior knowledge of the Russian language is required to enter the program, students first complete an intensive three-week language course in mid-August at the Nevsky Institute. From

early September through December, they continue this language work and study in two courses, taught by Bates professors, focusing on St. Petersburg's rich culture and turbulent history. Students also have the opportunity to visit such cities as Kiev and Moscow.

Wish, a junior environmental studies and political science double-major, is a dean's list student and active member of Bates Hillel. He is a recent recipient of the Stanton Environmental Award, which is given to students who have worked to advance Bates' environmental agenda.

Wish, the son of William and Elizabeth Wish of 6 Penbrook Circle, is a 2001 graduate of Lawrence Academy.

Alia Mohammed, daughter of Linda Odum of Lowell, has served this semester as a writing center coach at Saint Michael's College. Mohammed, who graduated from Andover High before entering Saint Michael's, is a junior studying elementary education and sociology.

She selected from nominees submitted by the college faculty to be one of 29 student coaches at the liberal arts, Catholic, residential college

located in the Burlington area of Vermont.

Writing center coaches work with their peers at the college who seek guidance regarding writing assignments for their courses. The coaches follow the premise, "Teach the writer, not the writing," and thereby try not to just correct a given paper but to work with writers, so that they will have skills to improve their writing on their own in future assignments. The coaches are given special instructions for working with students with learning differences and with non-native speakers of English. International students comprise a substantial portion of the visitors to the writing center.

Writing center coaches are selected because of their language skills, patience, flexibility, good humor, and a good knowledge of written English. They are trained in an upper level course on Teaching Writing, and they share coverage working in the center.

Diana F. Finegold of 11 Laverder Hill Lane has accepted membership in Golden Key International Honour Society and was individually honored during a campus ceremony at George Washington University.

AHS hiring

■ NEW TEACHERS ONLY TEMPORARY ?

Continued from page 10

morning, Thursday, Jan. 22, to discuss the issue.

Anderson said he plans to hire teachers to teach script-writing/filmmaking, digital photography, art, physical education and create a half position to teach an SAT preparation course in math. Anderson said he chose courses that would attract and accommodate the largest number of students. He polled students on their desires before selecting the classes.

Anderson said the process of scheduling students in the middle of the year was difficult. He also isn't counting that the teachers he hires will be provided for in the coming budget. Anderson has told applicants they shouldn't expect the job to continue next school year. "We're hiring these people for the remainder of the year. Future years are uncertain. We hope the money will be there," said Anderson.

Andover's current school budget for next year does not include the cost of hiring teachers to satisfy the DOE mandate, yet is already nearly \$1 million more than the schools expect to receive from the town manager.

The school budget also does not include teacher wage increases, even though the schools are negotiating a new contract with the teachers union.

Back and School Committee members had speculated that Anderson might be able to spend less than the estimated \$150,875 in hiring new teachers. The actual cost of hiring the four teachers is not known yet.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, Jan. 26-30:

Elementary schools

Monday: Tuna sandwich with tomato soup, chicken nuggets with potato puffs, slice of pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Roast pork with potato, carrots and applesauce, chocolate chip pancakes with slice of ham, pizza stick with soft pretzel, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Chicken McSchool with french fries, waffles with ham, pizza ring, fruit, veggie, milk and chocolate cake with glaze.

Thursday: French toast and sausage, toasted cheese sandwich with bag of pretzels, chicken nuggets with puffs, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Spaghetti and meat sauce, hot dog on a roll with fries, mozzarella sticks with marinara sauce, fruit, veggie and milk.

Doherty Middle School

Monday: Barbecue chicken with mashed potato, nachos with taco meat and spicy cheese, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Roast turkey dinner, two hot dogs with chips, baked chicken nuggets, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: American chop suey, chicken McSchool, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Two beefy burritos, fried chicken with mashed potato, veal parm sub, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Beef-and-cheese sub with chips, mozzarella sticks with sauce, baked chicken nuggets, fruit, veggie and milk.

Secondary schools

Monday: Beef-and-cheese sub, macaroni and meatballs, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Rotini ilio olio, chocolate chip pancakes with sliced ham, cheeseburger with chips, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: American chop suey, meatball sub, bagel pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Turkey bagel melt, two hot dogs with chips, two tacos with lettuce and salsa, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Big mac sub with chips, spaghetti and meat sauce, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Karen Pappa, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

DIAMOND MINDS



Master diamond cutter Brian McHardy visited Ethel Coltin's second-grade class (above) and Diane Stefanelli's fourth-grade class at West Elementary last month to give students a lesson on diamond cutting. McHardy, originally from South Africa, is a fourth-generation diamond cutter who travels around the world demonstrating the art and craftsmanship of cutting diamonds for Hearts On Fire Co. (carried locally by Royal Jewelers). Students held some uncut diamond crystals and, admiring McHardy's craftsmanship, some "finished products" as well.

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BELL ATLANTIC YELLOW PAGES



From left: Bill Leary and Bob Stabile

The William Roberts Color Group & Salon

The William Roberts Color Group & Salon recently opened by owners William Leary and Robert Stabile is located at 166 North Main Street.

They offer clients expert hair coloring, color correction, hair styling and cutting, with four trained stylists to choose from. Deborah Gallagher worked in Southern California as a hair stylist for television shows. Carlena Gabin has worked on Newbury Street and Bill Leary is a color training specialist.

Bill has been coloring and styling hair for 15 years before opening his own business.

"We have a strong focus on the art of hair coloring and

color correction, as well as styling and cutting. We hope to become the go to salon for all hair care needs," said Leary.

Bill Leary's mother and two sisters work with him at the salon. All are Andover residents. Bill's new salon was once the barber shop where he had his hair cut as a child.

William Roberts Color Group & Salon is located at 166 North Main Street, at the Nathan Frye House offices adjacent to Wild Oats. Their hours are Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Wed. night until 7:30 p.m. For an appointment call 978-474-8900.

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Opinion

The issue is the secrecy

IF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE HAD ITS WAY, taxpayers would not know that it has already promised more than \$390,000 to Superintendent Claudia Bach through 2007. They would not know the committee chairwoman, way back on July 29, signed a "memorandum of understanding" saying the committee "will extend Dr. Bach's current contract through June 30, 2007." The memorandum came to light only because the *Townsmen* happened to ask for a copy of Bach's current contract. The agreement was stapled to the copy of Bach's contract supplied by the human resources department.

The glaring problem with the School Committee's decision to agree to extend Bach's contract in a secret session has nothing to do with its selection of a superintendent. Although some parents would have liked to comment on the work of the superintendent before a decision had been made, in the end, the School Committee is elected to choose the system's leader.

The problem is that once a decision was made – and an "understanding" signed – the committee never bothered to inform the public. Not at the end of July, not when school began, not during the final five months of 2003. Not even when parent leaders such as Andover High School PAC co-president Ellen Travers asked members directly what was happening with Bach's contract.

Committee members now are noting negotiations on a final contract are still continuing. Such negotiations will iron out the nitty-gritty details. The important issues, the issues parents care about, have already been decided. Committee members interested in open communication with those who elect them should have shared news of an agreement of this magnitude. They should have done so not because they are required to by law, but because they recognize that the people who pay the salaries and volunteer so much of their time to improve the schools deserve to know who will lead these schools.

Web question

Should pact have been publicized?

Last week's *Townsmen* Web-site question was: Should Andover residents and workers be given special treatment in the Coachman's Ridge affordable housing project, getting 14 of these condos while the remaining six could go to anyone, or should the process involve pure luck?

40 people voted.

• 24, or 60 percent, said, "Of course, people with Andover connections should be given special treatment. Andover worked really hard to promote affordable housing. It only makes sense that people with ties to the community have the chance to move in."

• 6, or 15 percent, said, "I think everyone should have the same odds. Just because people have ties to Andover does not mean they are more deserving of owning a home here."

• 4, or 10 percent, said, "Split the affordable units 50-50 between people with Andover connections and others. That sounds fair."

• 1, or 3 percent, said, "I don't like the lottery process. I think their should be a committee that interviews and hand picks people to buy the affordable units."

• 5, or 13 percent, said "Other."

This week's question: The School Committee met secretly and agreed to extend Superintendent Claudia Bach's contract for another three years in a "memorandum of understanding." The agreement was signed in July, but no one said anything about it until this week. What are your thoughts?

• If this is the way elected officials are going to handle such matters, they should not be a part of town government. I think we need some new blood in that group.

• The public should have had a chance to make comments before such an agreement was signed. The committee also should have told the public it had agreed to retain Bach once it signed the memo.

• I would have liked to know the decision was made, but I'm sure the School Committee was just waiting for the right moment.

• It's not a surprise that Bach's contract would be renewed, as she has been doing a great job. It doesn't bother me to not know about these kinds of decisions until months later.

• Other.

To vote, surf to www.andovertownsmen.com.

YOU WILL PAINT. AND WHEN YOU AWAKEN...



Adrienne Mendoza puts the finishing touches on a sign for a hypnotist show at Old Town Hall, to be held tomorrow, Friday, and sponsored by the Andover Youth Council. Story, page 16.

LETTERS

Support for same-sex couples

Editor, *Townsmen*:

With this letter we wish to express our enthusiastic support for the recent Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruling extending marriage rights to same-sex couples. This act to include all couples who wish to wed reflects the essence of many of our beliefs.

We believe in the worth and dignity of all individuals and welcome all people to worship and grow spiritually in our religious community. We also believe that all people should be treated with justice, equity and compassion.

We celebrate the court's intention to include everyone, equally.

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Health teacher: Young students' attitude amazes

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I feel compelled to express what I have been feeling since September. I have been a health teacher at Andover High School for 12 years. This year, I have been so impressed by the freshman class.

Almost daily I am blown away by the exceptional manners, compassion, generosity and social grace that I have been blessed to witness. I have had to call and e-mail numerous parents to inform them about something positive their child has done. Some students actually thank me for teaching them when they leave my class!

I have worked with wonderful students in the past and have always enjoyed the job I do, but this year is different. I can honestly say I look forward to seeing each of my 128 students. The ninth-graders have not yet ceased to amaze me. I only hope when the semester changes, the new students I have will be half as wonderful as the young adults I work with now.

Sometimes I think kids get a bad rap. I wanted the community to know that the ones I work with now deserve praise, as do their parents for steering them in the right direction.

Betsey Desfosse
Chelmsford

Sophomore suggests mix of longer and shorter classes

Editor, *Townsmen*:

The debate over block scheduling is one that every Andover student should follow closely. The virtues and vices of 82-minute class periods are neither few nor insignificant. However, much of the power behind the decision of whether to sustain the current system lies with those who have not personally been affected by it. As a sophomore at Andover High School, I wish to share two examples – one positive, one negative – of how block scheduling has affected my scholastic life.

In biology, we are currently dissecting fetal pigs to further advance our understanding of mammalian anatomy. As I understand it, other classes dominated by upperclassmen are doing the same with cats. Those who have dissected in the past will surely sympathize with the amount of time required in the preparation and cleanup of such an operation. As many as 15 or 20 minutes might be expended between the movement and securing of the subject, the acquiring of the necessary tools, and the sanitizing of the working area when done. After factoring in such variables as homework collection, passing back exams, or a short preview of the next

stage of the dissection, were the class only 45 minutes long, on occasion less than 10 minutes could remain for the actual activity. This could result in the loss of such program, which go far in assisting students' understanding of the body and its functions.

On the other hand, during my freshman year I took geometry during the first of two semesters. During the second half of the school year, I had no mathematical course, because block scheduling crams an entire year's worth of studying into a single semester by elongating class time. This year, I once again lacked such a class for the second semester in a row. Come February, I will be taking accelerated Algebra II and III, without having had a math class for an entire year. Such situations are commonplace with a scheduling style that does not maintain a constant, balanced curriculum. If many students find themselves at summer's end having forgotten much of what they knew at the end of June, what can they be expected to retain over the course of a full calendar year without any professionally guided study?

The Jan. 8 *Townsmen* featured an article containing the views of two teachers on block

scheduling. I might not be entirely decided on whether the modus operandi is for better or for worse, but I do disagree with former science teacher Robert King's statement that it is impossible to occupy students for an hour and a half at a time. Perhaps with straight lectures and note-taking this is true. However, I have already been privileged enough to have had numerous teachers who have educated through interactive activities, debates and even games.

During my third and final year of middle school, I had my first encounter with block scheduling. On three days of the week, the four academic classes – math, language arts, science and social studies – each met for 45 minutes, with the rest of the day filled by classes such as art and music. On the other two days, a student would have a pair of blocks instead. This way, each teacher had one 90-minute class each week during which to assign a more extensive investigation or give a large test. Throughout the year, each academic subject was given equal time. Perhaps the high school should consider adopting a similar policy.

Darren McRoy
10 Stouffer Circle

LETTERS POLICY No equal justice under law in town

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Earlier this month, on Jan. 5, I asked the Andover Board of Selectmen and the police chief why the fireman under investigation for exposing himself in the station had not been fired and prosecuted. I also asked why the police chief hadn't notified the retirement board of a felony charge against a police detective to protect the taxpayers from paying the detective's full pension.

I beseeched the selectmen to

allow a homeless man to be allowed in the station so he wouldn't freeze to death.

In 1976, I walked under the words, "Equal Justice Under Law," carved into Vermont granite as I began my first day of work for US Supreme Court Justice Harry Andrew Blackman. We do not have equal justice under law in Andover due to Police Chief Brian Pattullo. He should resign.

Donal Taylor Coleman
High Street

THE THURSDAY FILE

In the beginning, we make our habits. In the end, our habits make us.

MARK CAPULET

A long dispute means both parties are wrong.

VOLTAIRE

There are times when silence has the loudest voice.

LEROY BROWNLOW

Be not afraid of going slowly; be only afraid of standing still.

CHINESE PROVERB

If your ship doesn't come in, swim out to it.

JONATHAN WINTERS

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

Our principles are the springs of our actions. Our actions, the springs of our happiness or misery. Too much care, therefore, cannot be taken in forming our principles.

RED SKELETON

The Oscar Wilde quotation

An idea that is not dangerous is unworthy of being called an idea at all.

About 'The Thursday File'

Steve MacDowall started the file on the Internet. The Web site for his creation is www.hudsonvanloo.ca and it suggests books to read and offers quotations such as the ones on this page.

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US Rep: Patriot Act II puts civil liberties under attack



Marty Meehan

..... movements — including such "subversives" as Martin Luther King and John Lennon — under surveillance by the FBI, CIA and military intelligence agencies. They compiled dossiers on leading activists and strategized about how to prosecute them on trumped up charges, all to prevent them from peacefully exercising their First Amendment rights.

Now the Bush administration

appears ready to revive domestic surveillance tactics to intimidate people who oppose the Bush administration's foreign policy and disrupt their ability to organize. According to a memo unearthed by the New York Times, the FBI has encouraged local police to collect information on antiwar demonstrators and send it to the FBI to aid in "counterterrorism." Apparently, Attorney General John Ashcroft's idea of counterterrorism is to investigate groups that disagree with President Bush.

The memo outlining plans to put peaceful protesters under surveillance is only the most recent sign that the Bush administration has little respect for civil liberties, and it is using the threat of terrorism as an excuse to trample on the rights of individuals. For example:

- By many accounts, more than 5,000 citizens of foreign nations have been detained in nominally terror-related investi-

gations during the past two years, but only a handful have been charged with a specific terrorism-related offense. A General Accounting Office report released in January found that while the number of "terrorism investigations" soared after Sept. 11, 2001, fully 75 percent of the convictions that the department classified as related to "international terrorism" were inaccurately categorized.

The Justice Department's strategy seems to be to intimidate, harass or deport as many foreigners as possible on the theory that at least a few are likely to be plotting attacks in the United States and that a massive crackdown on technical violations of the immigration laws might disrupt one or more of these plots. This approach seems more likely to succeed in discouraging potential informants from immigrant communities from providing assistance to law-enforcement officials

than in breaking up terrorist plots.

- The FBI recently announced that it had used the Patriot Act's provisions allowing warrantless searches of financial records to investigate public corruption in Las Vegas. According to an FBI official in Las Vegas, the Bureau chose to issue an administrative subpoena for financial records from a strip club and bar's owners and several prominent city and county officials, without judicial oversight.

While the FBI's actions did not violate the letter of the law, their decision to use Patriot Act authorities in a non-terror-related context raises questions about the act's sweeping scope. Even conservative media outlets, such as FoxNews, have suggested that this investigation is a troubling sign that law enforcement agents will invoke powers granted as part of the war on terror to take shortcuts

around civil liberties safeguards in ordinary criminal investigations.

- Unannounced searches, secret court orders for surveillance and seizures, and waves of arrests and deportations have become commonplace — all in the name of national security. No one knows how many people have been affected, or even how successful these activities have been, because the Department of Justice has hidden behind the shield of government secrecy and suppressed most information about its activities.

Now the administration wants even more expansive, less accountable and more unreasonable powers. President Bush is asking Congress to authorize the FBI use of "administrative subpoenas," which give agents the power to demand information without court orders, expand the use of the death penalty for terror-related crimes and acts of sabotage, and make it easier to hold suspected terrorists indefinitely before trial.

If he had his way, I am confident Attorney General John Ashcroft would go much further. A leaked copy of the Justice Department's legislative wish list, dubbed "Patriot Act II" or the "Victory Act," includes greater limits on judicial oversight in terrorism cases, an expansion of the already overly broad definition of terrorism, and increased secrecy across the board. Some of its specific provisions would:

- repeal local court orders

that stop the police from spying on religious and political organizations;

- lift requirements that the government disclose the identities of persons held during terror investigations — no matter how long the "investigative phase" lasts;

- catalogue genetic information of innocent Americans without their consent; and

- allow lawful immigrants to be stripped of their rights and deported without a hearing or the option to appeal these decisions to a federal court.

These proposals are outrageous. We need to strengthen our homeland defenses and give law enforcement and intelligence agencies the tools they need to fight terrorists, but that does not mean we should surrender our civil liberties.

The war on terror has already lost focus and threatens to spin out of control in ways that do serious harm to ordinary Americans. We cannot permit the Bush administration to avoid accountability for the ways it has curtailed basic freedoms without any demonstrated impact on terrorism.

Meehan, a Democrat, represents Andover and Massachusetts' Fifth Congressional District. He serves as a member of the House Armed Services Committee and he is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities.

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First Choice



A special section on the candidates, the issues and the electorate in Tuesday's first-in-the-nation New Hampshire Presidential Primary. It covers the folksy gatherings in coffee shops and living rooms to the handlers behind the scenes to the multimillion dollar television assaults, and analyzes what it all means to Granite State voters and America. **A special section.**

Invisible, invincible coach



Patriots Coach Bill Belichick, with his sad-sack sweatjacket sideline look, isn't an American idol. But he is one of America's best football coaches, and his attention to detail has made the Pats an overwhelming favorite in the Super Bowl. He attributes his invisible success to, among other things, a year at Phillips Academy in Andover. **In the Sports section.**

Name droppers

HELLO

Jennifer Lopez

What's it like to share the same first and last name of the rich and famous? Tom Brady of Methuen, Jennifer Lopez of Lawrence, Richard Burton of Pelham and other North of Boston residents explain how they cope with both the humor and the hassle. **In the Lifestyle section.**

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Associated Press
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Townspeople



Annie McGraw, 12, of Salem Street and Jenna, her husky, get in some quality dog sledding time on Tuesday afternoon. Above and at right, they traverse the "frozen tundra" of "Siberia" — as Phillips Academy students jokingly refer to the ball field at the farthest reaches of their campus.



Mush!

By Ben Hellman

ARTIC BREEZES DIDN'T CAUSE 12-year-old Annie McGraw to seek shelter this week. When it gets brutally cold out, Annie grabs her harness and her sled or skis and brings out Jenna, her husky, for some dog sledding.

Annie takes Jenna to the frozen expanses of Phillips Academy's ball fields. The ball field farthest from the school, but close to her Salem Street home, is called Siberia by PA students — the name has nothing to do with dog sledding, but it might as well when Annie takes to the field.

Sometimes Annie hooks up a small, one-person sled to the one-year-old Siberian husky, but she often puts on cross-country skis and lets the dog pull her along, a sport known as skijor. Either way, her mom, Celeste McGraw, says she can't get Annie back in the house when she is out with her dog. Annie got out every day

last week when the temperatures and wind chill dropped well below zero.

"There was a full moon last week and I just couldn't get them inside," said McGraw.

Annie says she has loved huskies as long as she can remember. She got her first husky stuffed animal when she was 4. When she got older, family friend and neighbor Fred Stott, who has raced in the Alaskan Iditarod race, showed Annie what huskies are really meant for.

Stott also introduced Annie to three-time Iditarod champ Jeff King. The rest is history. "I think that some day I'd hope to do the Iditarod," said Annie.

Annie is taking dog-sled lessons from a couple in Denmark, Maine this weekend. Her grandmother read about the husband and wife team from Alaska in the *New York Times* and sent the article to Annie. Annie wrote them a letter right away, and they welcomed her to work with their pack of sled dogs.

Program is a breath of fresh air

By Richa Goyal
What's Up Intern

SINCE 1877, the Fresh Air Fund, a non-profit organization, has provided free summer vacations to more than 1.7 million children from low-income neighborhoods in New York City. Nearly 10,000 New York City children have enjoyed the agency yearly.

There are many different programs that make up the Fresh Air Fund, the most popular being the Friendly Town Program. Through the fund's Friendly Town Program, New York City children visit volunteer host families each summer in suburban communities. Fresh Air children stay for one week or more in more than 300 communities from 13 states and Canada — including Andover.

Two Andover families who have participated in the Friendly Town Program in the past are planning to participate this summer as well.

Thomas and Mary Carroll hosted a 9-year-old girl last summer for one week. "I have been part of this program for two years now. I just think it's a wonderful fund that allows underprivileged New York City children to have experiences that they never could have in New York," said Mary Carroll.

"We took her to the beach, we took her out to dinner and we even took her to a farm to see animals. It was the first time she did any of these events and she was always so excited and so happy. We even took her to her first baseball game, even though she lives right next to Yankee Stadium in New York," said Carroll.

When asked why she and her family partake in the program, Carroll responded, "I think this program helps these kids to realize that there are opportunities outside the city. It opens their eyes to new things that they never thought were possible. I also think that this program has helped my four kids to understand the concept of how some children and families don't have the same things, or don't live the same way as we do. It's just a real eye-opener for us and for the child," explained Carroll.

Tracey and Gregory Galat of Andover has also been a part of the Fresh Air Fund's Friendly Town Program. "We have been a part of this program for 5 years now and we have had the same 11-year-old girl for all 5 years," said Tracey Galat.

When the *Townsmen* asked Galat why she and her family are involved in the program, her answer was very similar to Carroll's answer. "Well, this program gives city children a chance to spend a summer vacation in the suburbs and gives them a chance to be part of the fun that occurs here in Andover that wouldn't normally occur in New York City. She loves to go swimming when she visits us and I know that she doesn't get a chance to swim in the city," responded Galat.

Like the Carrolls, the Galats also believe their four children will benefit from the program. "I think it will help my kids to understand that not all children are as fortunate as they are. Overall, I think it's a wonderful fund and we are very happy to have been a part of it these five years and I look forward to doing it again this summer. Many of us have so much to give and I don't think many people are really aware of the fact that it is very easy for us to open our hearts to others," said Galat.

To become part of the Fresh Air Fund's Friendly Town Program, to make a donation, or to learn more about the other Fresh Air Fund programs, contact the Fresh Air Fund at 1-800-367-0003, or visit its Web site at www.freshair.org.

Youth center supporters wing toward goals in 2nd telethon

By Judy Wakefield

SOME FUN-LOVING trash-talking over who can eat the most buffalo wings might return when the town has its second annual telethon to raise money for a new youth center. Another wing-eating contest will be part of the benefit show.

Those oversized, spicy wings received attention last year when the town's director of youth services predicted he would eat "200 wings in two minutes." It was all in the name of fun and good public relations for the benefit, so it didn't bother Director Bill Fahey when he came up short — way short. He ate fewer than 10 wings in those two minutes. His colleague, Glenn Wilson, ate 10 and was crowned King of the Wings.

The wing-eating contest will return in two weeks when the Department of Youth Services holds its second telethon to raise money for a new youth center. About \$80,000 was raised last year and organizers are hoping to match or even surpass that amount.

Organizer Sheila Stone said changes to the telethon's format — such as the wing-eating contest — will be minimal. Big ticket auction items being finalized as of *Townsmen* presstime

included hard-to-find tickets to a Bette Midler concert and a chance to meet the Divine Miss M. There is also the standard auction fare: sports memorabilia, a golf getaway, summer camp tuitions and the chance for youngsters to pal around with their school principal for a day.

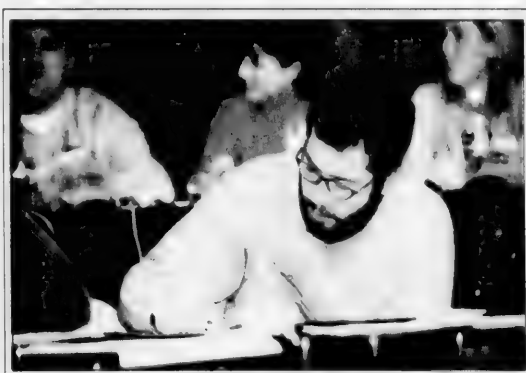
The telethon is set for Feb. 4, 5 and 6 on the Collins Center stage at Andover High School. Volunteers will man several telephones on stage while auction items are announced and cable viewers call with bids. Flat-out donations also will be gleefully accepted. Last year, one caller donated \$5,000.

"We're hoping to duplicate what we did last year," Stone said. "This is all about keeping the community aware that the youth center is going to be built and the ground breaking is going to happen this spring. We feel like we get more exposure from the telethon."

Stone said she is currently booking talent for the telethon and she welcomes people of all ages to step on stage and perform. She said several local bands are taking part.

Andover lawyer and dad Peter McLaughlin handled the master-of-ceremonies role all three nights last year. This year,

Continued on page 16



Pete Zetlan records a pledge during last year's Raise the Roof Telethon. This year's event takes place Feb. 4-6.

It's telethon time again...

By Tony Lombardi
ANDOVER YOUTH SERVICES

ANDOVER YOUTH SERVICES and the Andover Youth Foundation have announced that the second annual Raise the Roof Telethon will be hitting the airwaves soon. The second installment of this community event is planned to air live on cable Channel 8 for 3 nights, Feb. 4-6, from 6:30 to 9:30.

The Raise the Roof Telethon is a fundraiser for the Andover Youth Foundation and its pursuit for a youth center in town. The Youth Foundation and the Youth Services need community support to get to the finish line.

This is a casting call to all talented folks in town. The organizers of the event are looking for people to perform live during the telethon. They want the entire community to get involved: musicians, comedians, clowns, dancers, people with funny talents or funny pets. The possibilities are endless.

In addition to performing, there are a number of other ways to be involved in making the Raise the Roof Telethon a success:

- **Donate an auction item:** This could include services, vacation and entertainment packages, sports memorabilia, gift certificates, household items or anything else that you might think of. Big or small, it will be most welcome and appreciated.

- **Answer telephones:** Help staff the phone bank, recording donations and bids for auction items.

- **Call in and donate:** All proceeds from the telethon will go directly to the Youth Center Fund.

- **Tune in and watch:** This will be an event like no other. Check out the local talent while supporting the youth of Andover.

To perform, pick up an entry form at Andover Youth Services, the Department of Community Services, Memorial Hall Library, the Andover Youth Foundation office in the Old Town Hall, at any public school, or online at www.andoveryouthservices.com.

To get involved in a non-performing way, contact Tracy Layne at 978-470-1515, or Andover Youth Services at 978-623-8241 (or ays@town.andover.ma.us).

AYS has designed the telethon to be a fun-filled community event. For it to be successful, organizers need your help. Get informed and get involved. This building is for the community — be a part of it.



Winging it — Slathered in hot sauce, Bill Fahey, Julie Viola and Glenn Wilson were among those competing to see who could eat the most buffalo wings during last year's Raise the Roof Telethon. Wilson was declared the winner. Suzie Clarke (standing behind Fahey) keeps an eye on the proceedings.

SOCIAL NOTEBOOK

The Andover Historical Society is posting a casting call for playwrights, actors and producers in grades 6 through 8.

Teen History Theater Camp will run during vacation week, Feb. 16-20, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. each day. Participants will undertake research using the Historical Society's eight-paneled traveling exhibition "Slavery, Anti-Slavery, and the Underground Railroad in Andover," then write an original script, produce a play and act a role on stage. Throughout this fun and creative vacation-week program, teen thespians will be challenged to explore their creative potential. They will learn theater techniques, such as improvisation and character development, as well as basic stagecraft. The

young playwrights will polish writing skills as they script a historical drama about Andover and the Underground Railroad.

At a later date, the community will be invited to see the young actors perform their original play on stage.

The camp will be taught by veteran playwrights and directors **Juliet Mofford** and **Anthea Smith**. Mofford scripted the popular community play *Cry Witch*, which premiered in Andover in 1998 and was directed by Smith, who also directed Mofford's interactive play and mock trial, *The Judgment of Martha Carrier*, in 2001 and 2002. The two women collaborated on eight original living history theatricals for the Old York Historical Society in Maine. Under a Youth Projects Grant from the

National Endowment for the Humanities, they directed 25 high school students in researching 18th century primary documents, writing, and performing another community play.

Andover historian Mofford also scripted four plays presented during the town's 350th anniversary celebration, as well as several one-woman shows for local actress **Susan Lenoe**.

The cost of the five-day camp is \$150 for Historical Society members and \$200 for non-members. Membership is available for as little as \$25. Interested participants are encouraged to mail a \$50 deposit to hold their space, as the camp is limited to 12 students.

For more information, call 978-475-2236, or visit the Web site at www.andhist.org.

Stephen Anthony of North Andover will teach a new hand woodworking course at the Andover Historical Society starting in February. A special open house will be held this Sunday, Jan. 25 at 1 p.m. to introduce Anthony to potential students and answer questions about woodworking classes at

the Historical Society. A selection of Anthony's projects will be on display as he gives guests a tour of the woodworking workshop in the **Amos Blanchard Barn**.

Woodworking classes at the Historical Society present the opportunity to work with original 19th century tools in an authentic setting. The first class will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 7, 14, 21 and 28, with a make-up class on March 6. Students will learn how to care for, sharpen and use traditional hand woodworking tools. Topics covered include shop safety, basic design, stock preparation, squaring, basic joinery, gluing and finishing. The fourth class will include a tour of the Blanchard House museum to look at historical furniture construction techniques.

Classes are limited to six students, ensuring individual attention. Due to the small class size, this program is appropriate for both the beginner and the more advanced student. Classes are open to all; children ages 12 and up are welcome to attend with an adult. The barn is minimally heated, so students are advised to dress appropri-

HAPPY REUNION



The Trotter family of Andover attended the Annual Baby Reunion sponsored last month by the Fertility Centers of New England. Shown visiting Dr. Vito R.S. Cardone, medical director (center), are Ann and Robert Trotter and their 5-year-old twins, Caitlin and Alex. Despite snowy conditions, nearly 100 families came to the Burlington Marriott to show their appreciation to the physicians who helped make their families possible, according to a release.

ately in warm layers.

Andover Chinese Cultural Exchange will host its 20th New Year Celebration at the **Lo Kai Restaurant** in Dracut on Sunday, Feb. 8 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The evening will include a buffet dinner, entertainment, a raffle, and prizes. For ACCE members, tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for children. Membership is \$20 if purchased by Feb. 1. Tickets at the door are \$14 for adults and \$10 for children.

For non-members, tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children if purchased by Feb. 1; or at the door are \$17 for adults and \$12 for children.

All children age 4 or younger are admitted free.

Checks should be paid to ACCE, and sent to PO Box

444, Andover, 01810.

For more information, call 978-689-7286.

Temple Emanuel of Andover, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, will hold a special abbreviated Sabbath service for toddlers, preschool, and young school-aged children Friday, Feb. 6 at 5:45 p.m.

Rabbi Robert Goldstein will lead the child-centered liturgy and tell a story. **Cantor Donn Rosensweig** will lead the singing.

Parents and children are invited to attend a Family Shabbat Dinner immediately following the service.

For more information, call the temple office at 978-470-1356 by Jan. 29.

No reservation is needed for the Tot Shabbat service.

WHAT'S UP

Some hypnotic evening

Under the spell at Old Town Hall

By Ben Lederfine Paskal and Nathan Hass
ANDOVER YOUTH COUNCIL

Prepare to be amazed. Tomorrow night, Friday, Jan. 23, the Andover Youth Council will present Hipnotude at Old Town Hall.

What is Hipnotude, you ask? The Sand Man, a nationally acclaimed hypnotist, is coming to dazzle, amaze and reach into the audience's subconscious.

Once under his spell, the willing subjects will scratch at invisible objects and perform dances you never thought you would see from these people. Kicking off the night's program will be some Andover High comedians showcasing original material.

There will be so many laughs, your stomach will ache for days. So if you want in on the action, come to Old Town Hall at 8:30 p.m. and your \$6 dollar entry fee will go to the proposed youth center.

For questions or more information, go to www.andoveryouthservices.com, or call 978-623-8241.

► **WHAT'S UP** is written by kids for kids. The feature also highlights activities available for younger Andover residents. E-mail submissions to: jack@andovertownsmen.com.

Calling in the cash

■ **RAISING THE ROOF**

Continued from page 15

he kicks off the event and then turns the microphone over to Dave Fazio, an Andover High teacher and coach, who will MC on Thursday. Fazio will then

pass the microphone to Fahey for the last night.

"Booking the talent is always the toughest part," said Stone, who said not many acts are scheduled yet. "But, it's kids and they're always last minute. You have to remember that."

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By Pat Becker

Amesbury Playhouse Dinner Theater: *Robert Burns Birthday Party: A Scots Celebration* will take place Sunday, Feb. 1 at 11 a.m. This will be a memorable event with bagpipes

Peking Acrobats: You won't want to miss out on our upcoming trip to the Lowell Memorial Auditorium to see the world-renowned Peking Acrobats in their only local appearance. This group leaves its audiences spellbound by their graceful presentations of gymnastics, jugglers and cyclists. The trip will be held Friday, March 12. We will leave the center at 7 p.m.; the \$48 cost includes cen-

Valentine Brunch: The center will host a Valentine brunch Sunday, Feb. 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. You can't beat this deal... omelets made to order, home fries and bacon, fruit and cereal, chicken marsala, bagels and muffins, and a dessert station - all for \$5. Advance reservations are necessary and tickets may be purchased at the center. To top it

Women's Drumming Circle: The women's drumming circle will hold its February gathering Thursday, Feb. 5 at 1:30 at Old Town Hall. Newcomers are welcome to attend, and more information may be obtained by calling the group facilitator, Jane Gossard, at 978-475-8873.

Patients Welcome (vol. 9, 1988) 240

MEAN ROCKOFF, MD
28 ANDOVER STREET ANDOVER, MA
www.andovercenter.com

Joyce Kulhawik (center), WBZ-TV/Channel 4 arts and entertainment editor and honorary chairwoman of the American Cancer Society's annual Daffodil Days campaign, greets Andover volunteers Barbara Blanco (left) and Ruth White at a recent kick-off luncheon. Blanco and White coordinate the Daffodil Days campaign at Raytheon in Andover. Beginning March 22, more than 5 million daffodils will blanket New England, raising some \$3 million for American Cancer Society research, education, advocacy and patient services. For more information about becoming a Daffodil Days volunteer, or to order Daffodil Days "Gifts of Hope" bouquets for cancer patients, call 1-800-ACS-2345 by Feb. 27, or visit www.cancer.org.

A black sign with a peaked top. At the top, the word "Carhartt" is written in a large, white, stylized font. Below it, the words "WORK WEAR" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. In the center, there is a logo for "Red's" in a cursive script, with "SINCE 1889" on the left and "LEAS" on the right, flanking a central circular emblem. Below the logo, the words "Shoe Barn" are written in a white, cursive font. At the bottom, the location "Pleistow, N.H." is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below the sign, a white rectangular box contains the store's hours: "M-F 9:30-8", "Sat. 9:30-5:30", and "Sun. 12-5".

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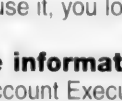


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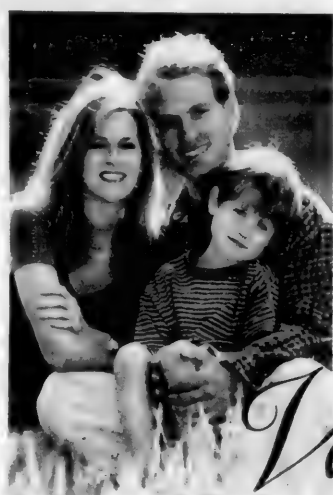
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WEDDINGS

Van Geel-Canterbury

Elizabeth Marie Canterbury and Thomas Albert Pol Van Geel were married June 7 at St. Joseph's Church in Lincoln where Rev. Frank Conroy of St. Ann's in Wayland officiated. A reception followed the ceremony at the Codman Carriage House.

The bride is the daughter of Joan Canterbury of Andover and the late Richard Canterbury.

She received a bachelor of arts degree at Kenyon College and a master's degree in music at Longy School of Music. She is a private voice teacher at South Shore Conservatory.

The groom is the son of Tyll and Katy Van Geel of Brighton, N.Y. He received a bachelor's degree at SUNY Geneseo and a medical doctorate at SUNY Upstate Medical University. He is a research assistant at the Harvard School of Public Health.

After a honeymoon in the Berkshires and Paris, the couple live in Cambridge.



Thomas and Elizabeth
Van Geel

Johnson-Jones

Kristine Elizabeth Jones, daughter of Frederick and Kathleen Jones of Hudson, N.H., formerly of North Andover, and Matthew Alan Johnson, son of Alan and Maryellen Johnson of Andover, were married Sept. 6 at Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, Merrimack College, North Andover.

The bride is a 1998 graduate of North Andover High School and a 2002 graduate of Merrimack College, where she received a bachelor of science degree in business administration. She is employed by Lillian Montalto Signature Properties, Andover as a marketing supervisor. She is also a part-time figure skating instructor.

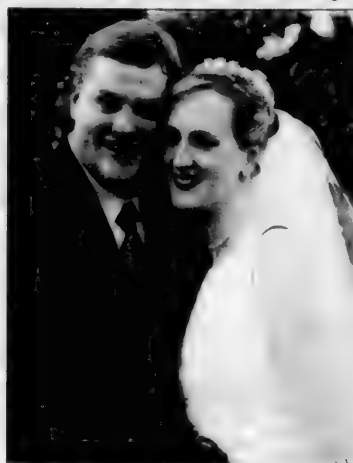
The groom is a 1994 graduate of Andover High School and a 1998 graduate of the University of Massachusetts

Amherst, where he received a bachelor of science degree in sports management. He is employed as a business manager for GLS Associates, Lawrence. He is also a part-time hockey referee.

The bride was given in marriage by her father at an afternoon nuptial Mass, which was officiated by Rev. James Wenzel of Merrimack College. A reception followed at Andover Country Club. Matron of honor was Carol Kennedy, college friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kristen Treacy, sister-in-law of the bride; Kerry Wilson, Sarah Felix and Meghan Twohig.

Best man was Michael Johnson, brother of the groom. Ushers were Stephen Johnson, brother of the groom; Gregory Jones, brother of the bride; Brian Boyd and Edward Fortuna.

After a wedding trip to Walt Disney World, Orlando, Fla. and Barbados, British West Indies, the couple live in Methuen.



Matthew and Kristine
Johnson

Mattola-Noelke

Amy Kathryn Noelke of Port St. Lucie, Fla., and Wayne Robert Mattola of Andover were married at St. Lucie Catholic Church in Port St. Lucie, Fla. by the Rev. Brian Horgan.

The bride is the daughter of John and Linda Noelke of Fort Pierce, Fla., was given in marriage by her father.

Maid of honor was Samantha Hebb. Bridesmaids were Melody Noelke, Michele Lucas, Clare Lembo and Jontai Binder.

The bride graduated from John Carroll High School and Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Fla. She is employed by St. Lucie County school system.

The groom is the son of Robert M. and Kathleen H. Mattola of Andover.

Best man was John Mattola. Ushers were Matthew Noelke, Patrick Clifford, Jeremy Cook and Andrew Daly.

The groom graduated from Bishop Guertin High School, Nashua, N.H. and the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah. He is an account executive with Household Finance Corp. in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

A reception at the PGA Country Club in Port St. Lucie followed the ceremony. The couple honeymooned on a cruise to the Western Caribbean.

The couple live in Port St. Lucie.



Wayne and Amy
Mattola

Marchlik-Veysey

Erica Lyn Veysey, daughter of Wesley and Vicki Veysey, both of Glens Falls, N.Y., and Stephen Matthew Marchlik, son of Michael and Patricia Marchlik of Andover, were married Sept. 27 at the First Presbyterian Church in Glens Falls, N.Y.

The bride is a 1995 graduate of Glens Falls High School and Trinity College. She is a graduate student at Tufts University in Boston.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of Andover High School and Trinity College. He is a project manager at Concentra Integrated Services in Waltham.

Maid of honor was Meredith Veysey.

Bridesmaids were Emily Veysey and Ami Marchlik.

Best man was Michael Marchlik Jr. Ushers were Scott Marchlik, Colin Arsenault, Keith Bilger and Greg Arserio.

After a reception at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls the couple honeymooned in Maui and Kauai.

The couple live in Newton.



Stephen and Erica
Marchlik



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Business



Workers are already converting Ralph's into Even Fall for siblings Adrienne and Spiro Pappadopoulos.

Second restaurant for Glory owner Pappadopoulos, brother take over Ralph's site

By Judy Wakefield

The owner of Glory restaurant has just signed a 15-year lease for the former Ralph's restaurant site on Route 125 in Haverhill, just over the North Andover border.

Ralph's was known for its family atmosphere and large dishes, such as veal parmigiana. That's a far cry from the ambiance at Glory, which offers candlelight and French food with a Cuban twist.

But the transformation has begun.

Ralph's 50-plus-year history in Haverhill ended earlier this month with the restaurant's closing, and Adrienne Pappadopoulos, of Glory on Andover's Essex Street, signed a long-term lease shortly thereafter.

Saying Ralph's location at the intersection of Routes 125 and 495 is a great spot and its 3,000-square-foot of space is a perfect size, Pappadopoulos has already started the makeover and is hoping for an early March opening.

But what's most exciting for her is the all-in-the-family appeal of this business venture. Her big brother, Spiro Pappadopoulos of Andover, is her partner in the new restaurant.

"He has come home and that's inspiring and the catalyst for this. I'm excited, as this will be a very special restaurant," she said. "And, he's slightly cooler than me," she giggled.

For the past six years, he has been busy running a deli he

owned in Times Square in New York City.

"But, this is home and since Sept. 11 my mother was ready for him to come home. Then, the space became available," she said. "We are just very excited."

The family has selected "Even Fall Restaurant Bar & Lounge" as the name for their new venture.

Even Fall is another word for dusk, Adrienne Pappadopoulos said, and her goal is to make her new lounge a favorite dusk destination. She is aiming for the after-work crowd "looking to kick back with a cocktail."

"All I hear at Glory is how I need a bigger bar, or two lounges," she said.

Drinkers and diners will get that in Haverhill as there will be two bars, in addition to the main dining room.

Glory's chef Corinna Mozo is still working on the menu for Even Fall. There's no word yet on the menu flavor, only that the restaurant will offer two menus — fine dining and a bar and lounge menu.

Adrienne Pappadopoulos has no plans to be less visible at Glory now that she's got a second restaurant. "Glory's my baby," she said affectionately, noting that she is excited about the new outdoor cafe planned for the Essex Street restaurant this spring.

"This won't take me away. The cafe plans are very much alive," she said.

Enzo moving to Olde Andover Village

By Andrea Gregory

Enzo Fossella first opened the door to his shop at 2 Elm Square 21 years ago. Inside Enzo of Andover — a high end men's clothing and tailoring store — that very moment in captured in a photograph, framed and resting near the cash register.

For now, the store still houses dozens of suits hanging against one wall. Another wall has button-down shirts and books of fabric samples on shelves. There is a glass case with brightly colored ties toward the center of the room. The humming of a sewing machine can be heard from the back room.

But weeks from now, the sound of a sewing machine will stop and the shelves will be empty. The picture of Fossella's opening day will be packed, and a store that thrived in downtown for more than two decades will move out.

Perhaps another snapshot will be taken when the store reopens down the road at 91 Main St. in Olde Andover Village. Fossella will operate out of one 715 square foot room, a tighter fit than the 1,270 square foot space he has now.

His face shows the emotions of how he feels about leaving. It is clear that move won't be easy.

"People say that I'm the cornerstone of the Musgrove Building," Fossella said.

But he said his business is not built on location, and his loyal customers are supportive.

"One customer said, 'You put yourself in your garage and I'll go there,'" said Fossella. "A relationship with a customer isn't just sell him a suit, make sure it fits. My devotion is to my customers."

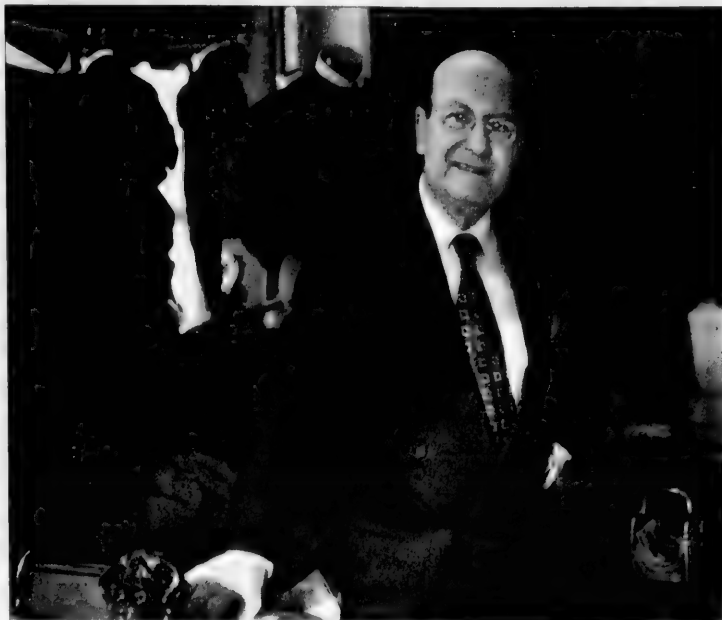
Fossella has had five landlords during his 21 years at the Musgrove Building. When the current landlord, Antonio "Anthony" DiNapoli, purchased the building in 2002, Fossella was his tailor. It's apparent he views their relationship differently now.

"Landlords make business decisions, and I think we should leave it at that," Fossella said.

"The emotional part just gets excluded. I'm a businessman. He's a businessman. I want to leave here with class."

Fossella said his focus lies on what is ahead of him. It is an old business that he will continue at his new address. Not only is he a tailor, but he creates custom-made suits from scratch. He explains it takes 65 hours to create each suit.

"I'm probably one out of 45 left that



After 21 years at his current location in Andover center, Enzo Fossella will move down Main Street to a new location in Olde Andover Village.

does this in the country," Fossella said, proudly. "I make the best suit in America. I have not seen a suit constructed more beautifully."

Fossella has spent a lifetime perfecting his trade. It is one he started in Italy at age 7. "I used to go to the school in the morning and learn the trade in the afternoon."

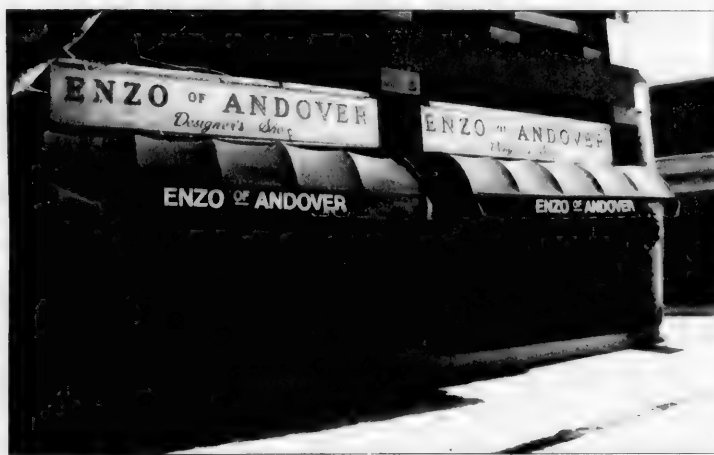
He said he was one of 14 apprentices. By age 16, he had opened a tailor store in Italy. At 19, he came to America and spent 30 years as a clothing designer, before opening Enzo of Andover. Now, at 69, his relocation will also alter the dynamics of his business.

He said the coming changes are good and will allow him to spend more time with his family. He said he expects his long time customers will make up the majority of his clientele. Since his store will not be visible from Main Street, he suspects most new customers will come from word of mouth.

Fossella said he plans to set up appointments and work Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and half days on Saturday.

He said men like to shop as little as possible. "They just want to get it done. In and out, and, of course, they trust my judgment," Fossella said. "Once I have... his measurements, he just has to pick out the pattern."

He said that not all of his customers even stop by the store. He mails them out fabric samples and with their measurements on file creates their suits. Then he ships them out. "I have a wonderful feeling with relation to my customers," he said. "That is going to continue until I close the door for the last time. Just because I'm going from here to there, nothing is going to change."



Enzo of Andover, at its current location, in the Musgrove Building on Main Street.

Nally is worldwide sales manager

Tactical Software, of Manchester, N.H. has appointed William Nally of Andover as worldwide sales manager. Responding to the increased demand for dial-out and serial remote access solutions that connect PCs to shared modems and serial devices, Tactical Software appointed Nally to spearhead both domestic and international sales programs.

"Bill brings to Tactical a successful 20-year track record in international sales and mar-

keting and we are delighted to have someone of his caliber leading our worldwide sales initiatives," said Lisa Walsh, president of Tactical Software.

A 20-year veteran of the high-tech industry, Nally has worked with US and international companies driving sales and establishing product and brand identity. Prior to joining Tactical Software, he served as vice president of sales at Codemesh Inc., a software language integration company.

Roger Jenkins named chair of surgery at Lahey Clinic

Roger L. Jenkins, MD, of Andover was appointed chairman of the Division of Surgery at Lahey Clinic, effective Jan. 1.

He was approved by the Lahey Clinic board of governors.

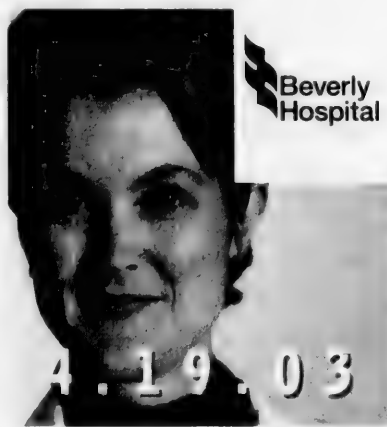
"I'm honored to be able to work with such an extraordinary group of physicians, nurses and staff," said Jenkins. "In a period of incredibly fast-paced medical achievements, I am excited about helping Lahey Clinic develop and expand its surgical care of the regional patient population."

Jenkins has been the co-director of the nationally recognized Hepatobiliary Surgery and Liver Transplantation Department at Lahey Clinic. He is a member of the board of directors of both the American Liver Foundation, New England chapter, and the New Chapter of Transplant Recipients, International Organization.

Jenkins is a graduate of the University of Vermont College of Medicine. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

"Dr. Jenkins is the ideal choice for this position," said David M. Barrett, MD, chief executive officer of Lahey Clinic. "He is a world-renowned surgeon with a vision that will keep Lahey Clinic at the forefront of medical advances. In addition, Roger is a warm and caring physician who will always consider the suggestions of both his staff and patients."

Jenkins is a 1969 graduate of Andover High School. He and his wife, Susan, have four grown children.



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OBITUARIES

Peter D. Bensley

Services are today for builder, outdoorsman, craftsman and father

Peter D. Bensley, 51, of Newburyport died Sunday, Jan. 18 in an automobile accident in Meredith, N.H.

He was born in Summit, N.J. and was educated in Andover. He graduated from Phillips Academy in 1971 and Brown University in 1976, where he was a standout lacrosse player, his family said.

Mr. Bensley was the president and founder of Bensley Construction Inc., based in Cambridge. The company has renovated and preserved a number of historic homes throughout Greater Boston.

Mr. Bensley's interest in renovation of historical buildings began in Baltimore doing restoration of row houses with Street of Bosses Inc. & Rouse Inc. He returned to the Boston area to work for the company PBK Development Co. and then founded Bensley Construction in 1988. He was a distinctive voice in the New England building industry and towns, including Salem, N.H. He directed projects that reflect and celebrate the outstanding architecture of his family.

Mr. Bensley was recognized in the building industry for achieving high quality workmanship, the ability to meet complex construction challenges, and for developing close working relationships with architects, subcontractors and homeowners, his family said.

Homes built and renovated by Bensley Construction have been featured in a number of regional and national magazines and trade journals, including *Architectural Digest* and *Five Home*.

Mr. Bensley was an avid outdoorsman, athlete and craftsman. In particular, he enjoyed sailing, tennis, hiking and most recently had renounced his love for skiing with his family. His love of the outdoors earned him four Camp Pines in Sandwich, where many special moments were spent at their country home with family and friends.

He was an enthusiastic artist and donated his personal time and resources to various community and school projects, his family said.

Members of his family include his wife Thelma and children Sam and Jordan. His parents, Audrey and Gordon Bensley, two brothers, Christopher and Zach Bensley, two sisters, Wendy and Jennifer, and

his grandmothers Else Nye and Helen Bensley.

A memorial service will be held today, Thursday, Jan. 22 at 3 p.m. at Cochran Chapel, Phillips Academy.

Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Peter Bensley Scholarship Fund for the Ragged Mountain Ski Club, c/o Williams & O'Leary, 11 Beacon St., Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02108.

Arrangements are by Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover.

H. Mary Brennan

Longtime secretary at St. Augustine Church

H. Mary (Smith) Brennan, 85, of North Andover, died Monday, Jan. 19 at Lawrence General Hospital.

Born in Andover, Mrs. Brennan was a secretary at St. Augustine Church in Andover for many years. She attended St. Michael's Church in North Andover.

She was the widow of Thomas P. Brennan.

Members of her family include daughter, Patricia Nicolosi of North Andover; son, James M. Brennan and his wife Rosemary of Framingham; five grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours are today, Thursday, Jan. 22 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Burke Funeral Home, 890 N. Main St., Andover.

A funeral Mass will be said tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 23 at 10 a.m. at St. Michael's Church, North Andover.

Burial will be in St. Augustine Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Michael's Building Fund, 190 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845; or to the charity of one's choice.

Nelson A. Marquis

Worked for 33 years at Raytheon Co. here

Nelson A. "Nellie" Marquis, 79, died Thursday, Jan. 15 at Academy Manor Nursing Home in Andover.

He worked at Raytheon Co. in Andover for 33 years.

Born and educated in Lawrence, he graduated from Lawrence High School, and received a bachelor's degree in government and economics from Suffolk University.

Mr. Marquis served in the Navy during World War II. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Methuen and Queen City Chapter 2 Disabled American Veterans, DAV.

He was the widower of Irene A. Leduc Marquis.

Members of his family include son-in-law and caregiver, Frank B. Watson Jr. of Andover; sister, Annette Lacroix of Methuen; brothers, Emile Marquis of Methuen and David Marquis of Medford; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

dren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was the father of the late Carol Ann Watson.

Memorial contributions may be made to Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, 22 Plymouth St., Methuen, MA 01844.

Arrangements were by Pollard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence St., Methuen.

Lucy Juknavorian

Retired saleswoman

Lucy (Loosigian) Juknavorian, 85, of Lowell, died Wednesday, Jan. 14.

Born in Watertown, she was raised and educated in Andover and lived in Lowell for more than 57 years.

She was a member of St. Vartanantz Armenian Church and worked as a salesperson for 20 years with Sears & Roebuck in Lowell before her retirement.

She was the widow of Azad "Duke" Juknavorian.

Members of her family include two daughters, Linda and her husband Hagop Jarkian and Nona D. Juknavorian, both of Lowell; son, Mark and his wife Diane Juknavorian of Methuen; three grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Armenian American Veterans Scholarship Fund, c/o 19 Blueberry Lane, Methuen, MA 01844; or to the charity of one's choice.

Funeral services were private and were by the McDonough Funeral Home, 14 Highland St., Lowell.

Clifford W. Guidry

Custodian at Raytheon

Clifford "Bucko" W. Guidry, 55, of Andover, died Thursday, Jan. 15 at home.

Born in Lowell and educated in Lawrence schools, Mr. Guidry was a custodian at Raytheon in Andover for 17 years.

Members of his family include his wife, Carole Ann "Midget" (Soucie) Guidry; brothers, Billy Guidry of Methuen, George Guidry of Windham, N.H., and Steven Guidry of Boston; sister, Vicki Savatano of Salem, N.H.; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were by Cataudella Funeral Home, 126 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen.

Walter S. Neville

Decorated veteran had long career with the National Guard

Walter Stephen Neville, 95, of Carmel Road, died Wednesday, Jan. 14 at Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen.

Born in Methuen, Mr. Neville grew up in South Lawrence and graduated from Lawrence High School and the McIntosh Business School.

He was inducted into the Massachusetts National Guard 182nd Infantry in 1941. Only weeks after Pearl Harbor, his unit was called up and sent overseas, where he served at Guadalcanal for more than three years.

He received a battlefield commission and later went to officers training school and rose to the rank of major.

After World War II, he remained in the National Guard and worked in full-time administrative positions with the Guard at both the Boston and Melrose headquarters until he retired.

Mr. Neville later worked for five years as assistant office manager in the electronics division of Hanscom Air Force Base.

He was a member of St. Augustine Church in Andover, as well as a longtime member of the Holy Family Hospital Men's Guild.

Members of his family include his wife, Mary K. (Roche) Neville of Andover; a sister-in-law; a brother-in-law; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also brother of the late John, Raymond, and Edward Neville, Laura Bird, Ruth Glavin, Esther Leary and Mabel Neville.

A funeral Mass was celebrated by his nephew, Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan of the Worcester Diocese, at St. Augustine Church in Andover.

Arrangements were by John Breen Memorial Funeral Home Inc., 35 Merrimack St., North Andover.

DEATHS

Peter D. Bensley, 51
H. Mary Brennan, 85
Richard S. Crittenden, 74
Mary V. DiPietro, 85
Brenda M. Findeisen, 41
Clifford W. Guidry, 55
Lucy Juknavorian, 85
Margaret M. Lavigne, 82
Nelson A. Marquis, 79
Mary Miele, 70
Walter S. Neville, 95
Celia R. Nicoll, 95
Grace M. Pothier, 86
Marjorie N. Stewart, 77

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

CRITTENDEN — Richard S. Crittenden, 74, of North Andover, died Thursday, Jan. 15 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton. Members of his family include his daughter, Laurie and her husband David Marinelli, and his son, Andrew Crittenden, all of Andover.

DIPETRO — Mary V. (Bordien) DiPietro, 85, of Lawrence, died Saturday, Jan. 17 at her home. Members of her family include her sister, Josephine Marchese of Andover.

FINDEISEN — Brenda M. (McConnachie) Findeisen, 41, of Sandown, N.H., died Saturday, Jan. 17 at home. She worked at GCA Corp. in Andover.

MIELE — Mary (Abate) Miele, 70, of Lawrence, died Sunday, Jan. 18 at Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen after a short illness. Mrs. Miele worked for the Internal Revenue Service in Andover as a clerk for several years.

POTHIER — Grace M. (Daley) Pothier, 86, of Lawrence, died Saturday, Jan. 17 at Salem Hospital in Salem, Mass. She was a secretary at the Internal Revenue Service in Andover for 25 years.

system. She continued her education in art and professional painting and was known for her paintings of birds and Oriental themes, which she sold in Florida.

While living in Andover, she was a member of West Parish Church and was very active in the church functions and fairs.

She was described as "a tremendous seamstress for her family and friends for many years," her family said.

Mrs. Nicoll was also a member of the Andover Breakfast and Coffee Club and the Andover Knitting Club for many years. She was also an avid gardener.

She lived in Salem, N.H. for the past six years.

She was widow of Jeoffroy B. Nicoll.

Members of her family include daughter, Donna Meisel of Hampstead, N.H. and formerly of Salem, N.H.; son, William Nicoll and his wife Sandra of Windham, N.H.; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; nieces and nephews; and dear friend Elsie Duborg of West Andover.

She was the mother-in-law of the late Dr. Frank R.J. Meisel, and grandmother of the late Cheryl A. Meisel and Joseph Meisel.

Arrangements were private and were by the Goundrey Funeral Home, 42 Main St., Salem, N.H.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Hampshire, 66 Hanover St., Suite 101, Manchester, NH 03101.

Marjorie N. Stewart

Retired travel manager

Marjorie N. (Nourse) Stewart, 77, of Methuen and formerly of Andover, died Tuesday, Jan. 20 at Lahey Clinic in Burlington.

She was born in Brockton and was a graduate of Brockton High School, class of 1943. For 33 years, she was employed as a worldwide travel manager for AAA of Merrimack Valley prior to her retirement in 1989.

A longtime resident of Andover prior to moving to Methuen, Mrs. Stewart was an active member of West Parish Church in Andover. She was a former superintendent of West Parish Sunday school.

She was also a charter member of the Rocketeers Square Dancing and organized and sponsored teenage square dance clubs in Greater Lawrence.

Members of her family include her husband of 59 years, Aubrey A. Stewart; daughters, Sandra J. Arnold and her husband Robert of Methuen, Karen D. Bergeron and her fiancé Christopher Orzdie, both of Methuen, Janice S. Musen and her husband Kenneth N. of North Haven, Conn.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Calling hours are today, Thursday, Jan. 22 from 3 to 6 p.m. at Pollard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence St., Methuen.

Funeral services will take place tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 23 at 11:30 a.m. at West Parish Church in Andover.

Burial will follow in West Parish Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the West Parish Church Music Fund, 129 Reservation Road, Andover, 01810.

Margaret M. Lavigne

Services are today

Margaret M. (Riordan) Lavigne, 82, of Andover, died Monday, Jan. 19 at Academy Manor Nursing Home in Andover.

She was born and educated in Lawrence.

Members of her family include her daughter, Mary Jo Lavigne of Salem, N.H.; a sister, Kathrine Smith of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

There are no calling hours. Graveside services were scheduled for today, Thursday, Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Cemetery Mausoleum, Lawrence.

Arrangements are by Charles F. Dewhirst Funeral Home, 80 Broadway, Methuen.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

100 Years Ago — 1904

Superintendent of Streets Lovejoy had a large force of men clearing away the snow in the square the first part of the week.

District Fire Marshall Casey has been conducting an investigation at Smith & Dove's mills relative to the fires which have occurred recently in the cards in the carding room.

Ira B. Bill, who recently purchased the fish business in Methuen, is to remove at once to that town and will occupy a tenement in the James Morse house on Hampshire Street.

The reflection of the fire in the store of O'Donnell & Gilbride of Lowell, which occurred on Tuesday night, was plainly visible in Andover.

The good work of the Andover Guild still goes on. During the past cold spell, four needy families were supplied with necessities and several other needy ones were looked after.

Signs designating the names of the streets have been placed at the corners of the different thoroughfares. These signs are very attractive, being handsomely painted with gilt letters on a

black background.

75 Years Ago — 1929

A distinct increase in the number of births and deaths, 12 of the latter occasioned by accident and violence, and a marked increase in the number of marriages characterize Andover's vital statistics from 1928 as compared with those of 1927.

Miss Marie Carr, local telephone operator is ill at her home in Lawrence with an attack of the grippe.

Beginning with a violent snow squall last Sunday afternoon, Andover has had its first week of real winter weather.

The state-wide egg laying contest for 1928-29 began Nov. 1, 1928. The report for Essex County shows a new entrant at the head of the list. A.L. Basiliere Merrimack, with an average of 22.5 eggs per pullet.

The Ballardvale Boys club played its first basketball game of the season with the Central Church team, in the Andover Guild Monday evening. The Central Boys won by the score of 20 to 11.

Bright new tin buckets, cups and other articles are being manufactured from old metal roofing, empty powder and carbide containers, and other junk sal-

vaged by the railroads, says *Popular Mechanics* magazine.

50 Years Ago — 1954

The question of merging the tree and moth department of public works will go on the ballot for a decision of the voters next election day.

A new law providing for the cooking of all garbage fed to pigs, the control of ringworm, and the study of fluoridation of the water supply are among the problems now before the board of health.

About 100 persons attended the public hearing held last Thursday evening in the Central elementary school auditorium by the rent control board which was attempting to learn if a substantial housing shortage existed here.

Two Haverhill men pleaded guilty in Superior Court in Salem on Tuesday to charges of breaking and entering the Tyson estate, 392 Andover St., Ballardvale, in the night time.

The annual Goldsmith speaking contest was held in the Memorial Auditorium on Monday and was won by Bonit Hajjah of the sophomore class and Robert Hesse of the senior class.

— Compiled by Townsman intern Kyle McCauley

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Sports

AHS ROUNDUP

Pair closing in on 1,000-point club

Points of Light: McLaughlin needs only 24 to hit plateau; Barrett aiming for his next 50

By Rick Harrison

The Andover High boys varsity basketball team became the first at the school to nail down an MIAA Division 1 North Tournament berth this winter, clinching the spot with a 67-59 conquest of visiting non-league challenger Newton North at the Dunn Gym.

It marks the 15th straight year the Golden Warriors have made the post-season under head coach Dave Fazio, whose club also received a surprise gift on Tuesday night when Dracut stunned previously-undefeated Central Catholic.

That shocker broke the tie atop Division 1 of the Merrimack Valley Conference, leaving Andover alone in first place.

"Of course it's nice, but I don't even want to think about Central losing right now," said Fazio following his team's 81-65 win over Tewksbury Tuesday night. "We want to concentrate on what we have to do every time we step out on the floor."

Meanwhile, the AHS girls are only one victory away from qualifying for the basketball tourney.

Andover teams still undefeated at presstime were boys swim and dive (6-0), girls gymnastics (4-0), girls track (4-0), girls alpine skiing (4-0) and boys skiing (3-0).

Two Andover hoopsters are closing fast on the 1,000-point club.

Ashley McLaughlin has 976 and needs just 24 more while Jack Barrett, who played his first varsity season at Reading High, has 950 and needs only 50.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

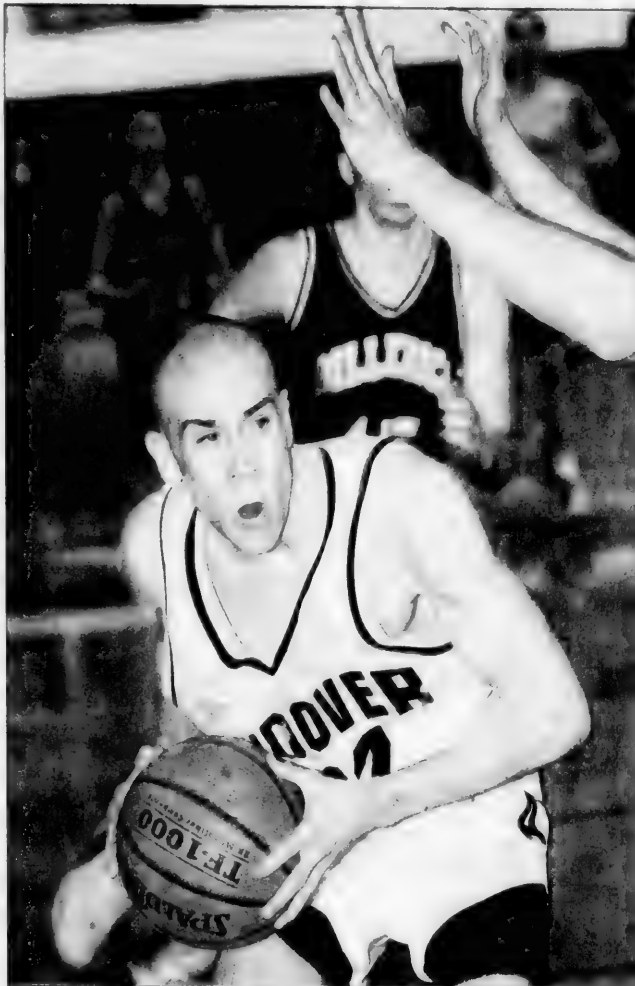
The rematch between State Division 1 finalists Andover and Minnechaug Regional of Wilbraham didn't disappoint.

The two powerhouse teams met during the third annual three-day Basketball Hall of Fame High School Showcase at Springfield College, and when the dust settled undefeated Minnechaug (11-0) managed to erase a nine-point halftime deficit on the way to a 45-37 victory over reigning state champ Andover.

"It was a very good game between a veteran and a young team," said AHS coach Jim Tildsley. "They have four starters back from last year and we have two. They're supposed to be the best girls basketball team in the state this year."

"For them it was all about revenge (last-second 48-47 Andover victory last March at the Worcester Centrum). We didn't approach it that way. A win would have been great — but for us it was a good learning experience."

"If they really are the top team in Massachusetts — we have a legitimate shot (to go all the way again) because we played them tough the whole way," said Tildsley.



Jack Barrett, who played his first varsity season at Reading High, has 950 points and needs only 50 more to reach 1,000, while Ashley McLaughlin, with 976 points, needs only 24 more.



The setback snapped a six-game win streak.

Tildsley was impressed with The Showcase, which brought in some nationally-ranked and well-known boys and girls teams such as DeMatha High of Washington, D.C., Christ the King of New York City and Lexington Christian of Kentucky. "There was a dinner for all the teams and plaques were given out," said Tildsley. "I hope we get invited back."

Andover bounced back with a 51-39 victory over Tewksbury Tuesday night at the Dunn Gym, beating the MVC 2 leaders who entered the game with a 10-1 record.

A-Mac countdown

In her pursuit of 1,000 career points,

Ashley McLaughlin has 976 including 194 this winter (16.2 ave.).

Soon she will join sisters Charlotte (1,600) and Jenny (1,498) Muller in the AHS girls elite 1,000 club.

Jackie Powers is also averaging in double figures with 126 points (10.5 per game).

Schedule

Andover hosts Haverhill tomorrow night at the Dunn Gym (7:30 p.m.), and then has a week off before hosting archrival Central Catholic next Friday night with intentions of avenging a 54-49 loss to the Raiders in Lawrence back on Dec. 19.

Andover 51 Tewksbury 39

Ashley McLaughlin led nine Andover

players into the scoring column with 14 points, and she added eight rebounds, five assists, four steals and four blocked shots in a virtuoso performance.

This one was truly a team effort, as early foul problems for three AHS starters pressed several reserves into action in the first half.

"Arianna Miliotis played an excellent first half, and Brittany Moriarty played her best game of the season pushing the ball up and distributing it," said coach Tildsley.

"Meagan Merinder also played very well and Jessie Koffman was outstanding defensively in the second half."

The Lady Warriors led 29-16 at the break.

Matia Kostakis contributed eight points, seven rebounds and three steals, while Merinder had six points, eight boards and

two steals.

Maggie Cosgrove nailed a pair of back-breaking three-pointers, and Emily Pallotta finished with five points, five assists and two steals.

Liz Pallotta and Koffman added four points apiece, while Jackie Powers and Moriarty had a field goal each.

"They are big and talented and legit," said Tewksbury coach Pat McAndrews. "By far the best team we've played this season."

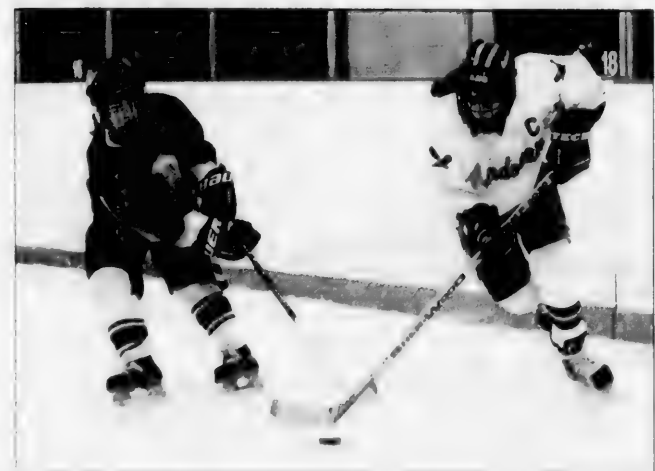
Tewksbury, which managed only 10 baskets (and 17 for 25 from the free throw line), was led by its 1-2 punch of Lindsey Cullity and Courtney O'Brien with 12 and 10 points respectively (both have scored 30 in a game this winter).

"I think we held both below their season

Continued on page 22

Putting wins together, with consistency

Lady Warriors move to 6-3 overall record with wins over Acton-Boxboro and Everett



Captain Adrienne Shea skates around an Acton-Boxboro defender.

By Rick Harrison

Sophomore Maria Nasta netted a hat trick, while Adrienne Shea contributed a goal and two assists, as the Andover High girls varsity hockey team completed a season sweep of Acton-Boxboro with a 5-3 Metro-North League Division 1 victory at the Merrimack Valley Forum.

That win, along with a 3-0 whitewash of Everett and 7-5 loss to Boston Latin, left the Lady Warriors at 6-3 overall and 3-3 in league games.

"Our play has been up-and-down," said head coach Bill McCarthy. "We played well against Everett and Acton, but didn't show up for the Latin game."

"When you're playing a good Division 1 schedule you can't afford a 'down' game against anyone. We need to get more consistent and we'll be fine."

Schedule

Andover, playing its third game in four nights, hosted Arlington Catholic yesterday at the Merrimack Valley Forum after Townsman presstime.

"Arlington Catholic is my alma mater," said McCarthy. "We've never played them before and naturally we have to beat them."

Saturday night the locals journey south to face co-op team Quincy/North Quincy (6:40 p.m.).

Scoring leaders

Freshman Becky Cairns was the top scorer through nine games with nine goals and 12 assists for 21 points.

Maria Nasta has a team-high 14 goals and six assists for 20 points, Ashley Malins five goals and 10 assists, Adrienne Shea six goals, seven assists and Alison Burns five goals, four assists.

Andover 5 Acton-Boxboro 3

The Lady Warriors, who also beat A-B 6-2 in the Dec. 17 season opener, bolted to a 4-0 first-period lead while playing their second game in two days.



Samantha Weinberg is stopped by goalie Jess Redmond, as Andover High hosted Acton/Boxboro on Monday, Jan. 19.

Adrienne Shea gave AHS a 1-0 lead just 1:57 after the opening faceoff, and Maria Nasta followed with a pair of quick goals at 7:35 and 9:51 (power play).

Ashley Malins notched an unassisted goal with 42 seconds left in the stanza to make it 4-0.

Erica Christenson, who pocketed all three Colonials' goals, connected at 1:39 of the middle period with the only tally of that frame.

Nasta completed Andover's first hat trick of the season at 2:09 of the final session, and then Christenson completed her 'trick with the final two goals at 2:48 and 7:00.

Shea passed out two assists while Becky Cairns, Sam Collins and Nasta had a set-up each.

Dolly Beechinor finished with 22 saves as Andover managed a 33-25 shooting edge.

"Dolly made a couple of outstanding stops," said McCarthy. "She was there when we needed her."

Boston Latin 7 Andover 5

The Lady Warriors struggled in this noontime game played at Matthews Arena in Boston.

Maybe it was the early start, the snowy day or the bus ride that made the locals sluggish.

Latin, 8-2 overall and having an excellent season, led 3-2 after one period and 6-3 after two.

Andover pulled goalie Christina Cahill with two minutes left, and Maria Nasta trimmed the deficit to 6-5 by scoring twice with 80 seconds left (13:40) and 18 seconds to play (14:42).

Latin then notched an empty-net goal with four seconds remaining (14:56). The seven goals were the most allowed by AHS this season.

"This was a winnable game," said coach McCarthy. "But we needed a better effort to compete with this team."

Becky Cairns contributed a goal and

Continued on page 24



Becky Johnson steals the puck away from an Acton/Boxboro player. The Lady Warriors earned a 5-3 Division 1 victory at the Merrimack Valley Forum.

AHS ROUNDUP

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Continued from page 21

average," said Tildsley. "Liz Pallotta and Ashley (McLaughlin) did the job on Cullery while Cosgrove, Emily Pallotta and Moriarty switched off on O'Brien."

Minnechaug 45
Andover 37

The Lady Warriors played an outstanding first half, mixing things up and confusing Minnechaug for much of the time while moving out to a 24-15 lead.

"We shut them down and executed our offense very well," said coach Tildsley. "But in the second half they came out in a zone and we got a little flustered. We had a couple of quick turnovers and the lead shrunk to three points very quickly."

"They got some long rebounds to set up their break, and we had a lot of makeable shots we didn't hit."

The locals managed only 13 points in the final 16 minutes.

Ashley McLaughlin led all scorers with 15 points, and she also had six rebounds and blocked four shots.

Liz Pallotta contributed eight points and nine boards for AHS. Jackie Powers was held to six points and Mata Kostakis added four points and a team-high 12 rebounds.

Meagan Menander and freshman Maggie Cosgrove completed the offense with two points each.

While the locals struggled to put points on the board, their defense also made it tough on Minnechaug by forcing 27 turnovers.

The Falcons were led by Laura Menty and Mikala Cammino, both returning starters, with 14 and 10 points respectively.

This same pair sparked Minnechaug in last year's state final with 13 points each.

The other 2003 starters, Brielle Bellefeuille and Sara Wilson, were held to four and two points respectively while Kate McCloskey missed in nine points.

INDOOR TRACK

A sweep of their Haverhill counterparts by the Andover High girls and boys track teams left the undefeated Lady Warriors at 4-0 overall and the boys at 3-2 in Merrimack Valley Conference dual-meet action.

Yesterday, after *Townsmen* presume, the Andover girls had a showdown against likewise-unbeaten Chelmsford with the winner almost sure to capture the MVC Division 1 championship this winter.

Andover boys 63
Haverhill 23

The Golden Warriors took a 32-0 lead after sweeping the 50 hurdles, 50 dash, 300 and taking first in the 600.

"It's great the way our whole sprint team is coming together," said coach Comeau. "We shut Haverhill out in the sprint races."

"Art Iwanley and Greg Kouloheras are doing a terrific job in that area. They're



It appears the official can't hear the complaints of Lady Warrior coach Jim Tildsley. His players rose to the occasion and defeated Tewksbury, 51-39.

working long hours and the kids are responding to the hard work.

"I can't help but be happy with the progress of the boys team," said Comeau.

The sweep of the 50 hurdles was accomplished by Capt. Vin Errico, whose 6.6-second clocking equaled his personal best. Adam Cuomo (6.7) and Chris Cole (6.9).

Cleaning up in the 50 dash were Ryan Donahue (5.6), Buddy Farnham (5.9) and Jeff Belardo (6.0), while recording personal-best times in the 300 dash were winner Bruce Hilman (35.4), Robert Kaufman (35.5) and Jarrett Mackin (36.2).

Also placing first were Garrett Rayner in the 600 run (1:23.1), two-miler Ryan Durkin with a personal-best 10:02 and high jumper Mark Radlinski (5'7").

The seventh Andover victory came in the 4x400 relay where Errico, Kaufman, sophomore Jason Sheldon and Hilman flashed across in 3:50.1.

Other runners-up were Matt Malloy in the 1000 run (2:31.9), miler Brad Sherman (5:05.0), high jumper Kevin O'Brien (5'5") and shot putter Kyle MacKenzie (43'1 1/2").

"Malloy is normally a 600 runner but we wanted to see what he could do in the 1000," said coach Comeau.

MacKenzie's toss in the shot was his longest in a meet.

Andover snagged eight of a possible nine third places, including those by Jeff Sawyer (1000, 2:34.6), miler Sasha Seletsky (5:05.6), two-miler James Primes (10:50.0), high jumper Matt Hill (5'3") and shot putter Mike Gustin (42'10").

Andover girls 53
Haverhill 33

In their final dual-meet tuneup for

Chelmsford, the Lady Warriors finished first in five of the 10 events and swept the 50 hurdles.

Andover also picked up 21 valuable points with seven of a possible nine second places.

Local winners were undefeated hurdler Brittany Pierce with a personal-best 7.5 clocking, Jenny Dlesk (50 dash, 6.4), Capt. Amanda Carlson (300 dash, 42.5), miler Courtney Hamer (5:55.5) and high jumper Melissa Parry (4'10").

Meghan Keefe (7.7) and Capt. Allison Kerivan (7.8) were 2-3 in the hurdles, while Kerivan added a second in the high jump (4'10").

Other AHS runners-up included Kate Nichols (300 dash, 42.6), Emily Korba (600 run, 1:38.6), miler Leslie Willey (6:04.7), two-miler Jazzy Dingler (12:49.0) and shot putter Felicia Thompson (28'3").

Placing third for the winners were Caroline Pierce (50 dash, 6.6), freshman Rachel Fox (600 run, 1:38.7), Michelle Piro (1000 run, 2:57.8), two-miler Christy Nigh (13:23.0) and shot putter Alyssa Lau (28'1").

Puro's personal-best performance in the 1000 is also the third best time in the MVC this season, beaten only by the two Haverhill runners that finished ahead of her in this race.

"It was the race of the day in all the meets," said coach Comeau. "It was a tremendous effort by Michelle, but Chrissy Canfeo of Haverhill ran a 2:53.3 and no one was going to catch her."

Class A Relays

Andover had an excellent day at the annual Eastern Mass. Class A Relays held at the Lewis Center, with the AHS girls finish-

ing second and the boys fifth in the team standings.

The Lady Warriors chalked up 39 points as runner-up in a 20-school field to Newton North with 59.

Rounding out the top five were Wachusett Regional of Holden at 34, Brockton 32 and Chelmsford 24.

Andover placed top six in seven events, winning the high jump (14'6 3/4") and placing second in the 4x50 shuttle hurdles (30.82 seconds) and 4x50 dash (25.59).

The locals were also third in the 4x200 sprint relay (1:49.20), fourth in the 1,600 medley relay (4:30.20), fifth with its B team in the 4x50 shuttle hurdles (33.85) and sixth in the 4x400 relay (4:21.70).

The distance medley finished ninth (13:53.20) and the shot putters 11th (79'7 1/2").

On the boys side, Andover notched 26 points for fifth in a 17-school field topped by Brockton with 54 points.

Newton North was second at 39, Lowell third at 38 and Lawrence fourth at 32.

AHS won the 4x50 shuttle hurdles (26.58), placed second in the long jump (59'7") and took fourth in the 4x50 sprint relay (22.83).

Also scoring were the 4x400 quartet, fifth in 3:37.20, and the sixth-place 4x200 relay (1:36.10) and distance medley crew (11:15.90).

BOYS HOCKEY

The Andover High boys varsity hockey team allowed only four goals in two recent Merrimack Valley/Dual County League Division 2 games, but had to settle for a split with a 3-2 squeeze past Lincoln-Sudbury and a 2-0 loss to division leader Tewksbury.

Those results brought the Golden Warriors to the midway point of the season with a 3-7 record, and coach Bill Cullen's crew will have to pick up the pace in the final 10 games to once again qualify for the Division 2 North Tournament.

To make the post-season, AHS must either score 20 points or finish first or second in MV/DCL 2.

Injury report

Sophomore first-line forward Mike Lamagna remains sidelined after suffering a cracked bone in his shoulder against Haverhill on Jan. 3.

Junior forward Mike Muccio returned to action in the Lincoln-Sudbury game and scored a goal.

Junior forward Mike O'Reilly is also hurting with a shoulder injury.

Schedule

AHS played an MV/DCL crossover game last night against Division 1 Central Catholic.

Saturday night the locals will play MV/DCL 2 rival Methuen at the Methuen High rink (6:50 p.m.), hoping to complete a

season series sweep after whitewashing the Rangers 2-0 in the Dec. 20 season opener.

The Golden Warriors' schedule is heavily-weighted on the "away side" this season, with 13 of the 20 regular season games on enemy ice.

Andover 3
Lincoln-Sudbury 2

Scoring three goals for only the second time (3-0 win over Dracut), the Golden Warriors chalked up the victory over MV/DCL 2 rival L-S at the Merrimack Valley Forum.

After spotting the visitors a 1-0 lead midway through the first period, Andover tied it at 13:35 on an unassisted goal by senior defenseman and Capt. Brian Buckley.

The blueliner intercepted a loose puck at the right point and blasted a slapshot past L-S goaltender Tom Waldron for his first goal.

Second-period tallies by Mike Muccio and Mike Van Campen, also their first of the season, gave AHS a lead it never relinquished.

Muccio, coming off a knee injury, notched a shorthanded goal at 1:58 with the assist to James Kim.

Kim did some aggressive forechecking to win control of the puck, passing it out front to Muccio who crashed the L-S net and scored.

Van Campen notched the eventual game-winner at 11:32 from a scramble just outside the crease area. Sophomore Joe Benedix was credited with the assist.

L-S made it interesting with a goalie pull that helped produce Chris Nelson's second tally of the game with 83 seconds to play.

The visitors, who outshot Andover 9-3 in the final period, could not net the equalizer in the final minute.

Golden Warriors' goalie Craig Espinola made 16 saves as the overall shots were even, 18-18.

"It's nice to score some goals," said coach Cullen. "We played a couple more freshmen and hopefully everything is coming together for the second half of the season."

Tewksbury 2
Andover 0

Bill Fabiano, one of the top goaltenders in the league, faced 12 Andover shots and stopped them all to post his second shutout for the Redmen (8-2-1, 4-0-1 league) who handed the Golden Warriors their third shutout loss of the season.

AHS netminder Craig Espinola was also sharp with 21 saves. But two pucks got past him, as Ryan Walsh scored at 3:07 of the first period and Bill Lavigne added the insurance tally at 9:00 of the middle stanza.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

The Andover High girls gymnastics team overcame sub-freezing temperatures outside, a chilly bus ride (no heat) and a

Continued on page 23

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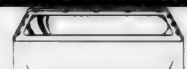
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AHS ROUNDUP

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Continued from page 22

cold Dracut gym to defeat the host Middies, 134.80 to 130.30, in Merrimack Valley Conference dual meet action.

The victory boosted the Lady Warriors, co-leaders in the MVC, to 4-0 overall and stretched their multi-year dual-meet win streak to 41 in a row.

The annual Blue-Gold intra-squad meet was once again extremely close, with the Gold squeezing out a one-point 149.05 to 148.05 victory.

Schedule

Andover hosts Methuen tonight at the Dunn Gym (7 p.m.).

Two strong opponents are scheduled next week, as the Lady Warriors host first-year team Central Catholic (3-1) on Monday at the Dunn (7 p.m.), and will compete for the MVC title next Thursday when they travel to face likewise-undefeated Chelmsford (5-0) at the Conrad Gym (7 p.m.).

The Lions scored 131 points last week against Central and should give AHS a stern challenge.

"It should be an interesting meet," said Andover coach Julie Chapman. "I'd prefer it was at home — but I don't think their gym will make a big difference."

A sidelight to the meet will be an anticipated individual showdown between AHS all-around standout Libby Fortier and Chelmsford's top gymnast, Robin Underwood, who has won AA honors in each of the Lions' meets this season.

Chelmsford would have been even stronger this season if its No. 1 from last year, Missy Carr, had not switched over to indoor track where she has become one of the top hurdlers in the area.

Injury report

Freshman Renee Coiro suffered an ankle injury on her dismount from the balance beam in the Dracut meet, and did not compete in the

Blue-Gold Meet.

"Renee mis-stepped on her dismount, landed awkwardly and twisted an ankle," said coach Chapman. "We didn't know how serious the injury was at first, but it's getting a little better each day."

"The swelling has subsided but the ankle is still bruised and discolored. She was walking around without crutches, but very gingerly, at the Blue-Gold."

"She won't compete this week against Methuen, but there's an outside chance we could get her back for Central and Chelmsford next week."

Andover 134.80
Dracut 130.30

Libby Fortier had another solid meet, placing first in two events and winning the all-around for the second time this season (in two tries) with a 34.85 score.

Fortier was tops in the vault (8.85) and on the uneven bars (8.6), placed second on balance beam (8.9) and was third in floor exercise (8.5).

Katie Infantine was second all-around at 34.00, registering a strong 9.0 for first place on beam. She tied for third on bars (8.4) and in vault (8.2) while also scoring 8.4 in floor.

"We faced some adversity with the weather, which Dracut also had to overcome, and the injury to Renee (Coiro)," said head coach Chapman. "But our kids pushed through it. We went for a high team score again and got it."

Meghan Harrington was second on bars (8.45) and scored an 8.1 on beam. She was also scheduled to compete in floor exercise but had to be scratched when the cold made her temporarily ill.

Sarah Coneeny tied for third on bars (8.4) and scored 8.0 in vault and 7.7 in floor.

Freshman Becky Robichaud was third on beam (8.5), and freshman Carly Verrette contributed an 8.2 in floor and 8.1 in vault.

Ann Marie Cashman recorded a 7.4 and freshman Casey Jaroche a

6.3 on bars.

Capt. Andrea Krivelow chalked up a 7.4 on beam. Lauren Reed had a 7.9 in vault and Capt. Jenn Mason an 8.2 in floor.

Freshman Renee Coiro posted an 8.0 in vault and a 7.9 on beam before suffering the ankle injury.

Gold 149.05
Blue 148.05

Every AHS gymnast, except Renee Coiro (injury) and Carly Verrette (family commitment before meet was scheduled), competed in at least one event.

All individual scores counted towards the team total, certified officials judged the competition and there were no all-around entries.

Event winners were Libby Fortier of Gold on the uneven bars, with the meet's top score of 9.25. Ann Marie Cashman of Blue on the balance beam (8.55). Steph Theroux of Gold in the vault (8.1) and Jenn Mason of Gold in floor exercise (8.4).

Gold clinched the victory with a strong showing in floor, where it swept the top four places.

Following is a summary of all competitors and their scores:

GOLD 149.05, BLUE 148.05
at Dunn Gym
(all scores count)

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Libby Fortier (G) 9.25; 2. Sarah Coneeny (B) 8.3; 3. (tie) Meghan Harrington (B) & Katie Infantine (G) 8.2; 5. Ann Marie Cashman (B) 7.6; 6. Casey Jaroche (G) 6.4.

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Cashman (B) 8.55; 2. Lauren Reed (B) 8.3; 3. Donna Lamontagne (B) 8.4; 4. Jaroche (G) 8.0; 5. (tie) Aja Nicholson (B) & Andrea Coiro (G) 7.9; 7. Becky Robichaud (G) 7.7; 8. Sonal Mehta (B) 7.4; 9. Jackie Hung (G) 6.7; 10. (tie) Ashley Dias (B) & Jen Pavelka (G) 6.0.

VAULT: 1. Steph Theroux (G) 8.1; 2. Reed (B) 7.9; 3. (tie) Nicholson (B) & ACoiro (G) 7.5; 5. (tie) Dlamontagne (B) & Robichaud (G) 7.4; 7. Hung (G) 7.35; 8. Jenn Mason (G) 7.2; 9. Sheila Tayebi (G) 7.1; 10. Andrea Krivelow (B) 7.0; 11. Siena Brooks (B) 6.8.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Mason (G) 8.4; 2. Hung (G) 7.7; 3. Laura Lamontagne (G) 7.6; 4. (tie) Dlamontagne (B) & Jaroche (G) 7.5; 6. (tie) Mehta (B) & Lisa Bernstein (B) 6.6; 8. Tayebi (G) 6.4; 9. Brooks (B) 5.5.

row afternoon when the top two teams in the MVC, Andover and Chelmsford, meet for the second time this season.

The Golden Warriors are currently 6-0 atop the standings, while two-time reigning Massachusetts state champ Chelmsford is second at 5-1.

Although both teams will still have three MVC meets left after tomorrow, there are no other teams in the conference that can challenge the top two.

If AHS beats Chelmsford for the second time — the locals will go on to claim the title outright — while a Lions' victory would mean the archrivals will share the crown (harring a major upset down the line).

"We can't take anything for granted," said Andover head coach Mark Taffe. "But this is obviously a huge meet. If we win we're two ahead of Chelmsford (and Haverhill) and it will be pretty tough to catch us."

The Golden Warriors won the first meet with Chelmsford, 95-91, as it came down to the final 400 free relay before Andover handed the Lions only their second MVC loss ever.

AHS posted its sixth straight victory recently, completing a season sweep of Lowell with a 98-80 victory at the Greater Lawrence Vo-Tech pool.

"The kids are swimming very well and my assistant coach, Adam Moskal, has been invaluable in their consistency and progress," said Taffe.

Schedule

Next week the Golden Warriors host Central Catholic on Tuesday and Nashua, N.H. on Friday at Greater Lawrence (all meets 3:30 p.m.).

Andover 98
Lowell 80

Junior Chris Mullen was a double winner for the locals, sparking the triumph by touching first in both the 200 free (2:01.59) and 100 butterfly (1:14.57).

Also chalking up individual event victories were freshman Oliver Scarborough in the 50 free (26.06), Ben Carter (100 free, 59.50), sophomore Rob Medaglio (500 free, 5:30.50) and Joe Reynolds (100 backstroke, 1:05.41).

"Ben Carter broke the one-minute mark for the first time in the 100 free," said Taffe. "That's a big barrier to crack through."

Andover won the 200 medley relay with Jon Meltz, Paul D'Ambrosio, Capt. Sean Geary and Dave Baletsa (2:00.94), and also took first in the 200 free relay with Mullen, Tom Avila, Jonathan Taylor and

anchorman Meltz (1:44.97).

Sophomore one-meter diver Joe Savoca came in second, anchorman cut score, chalking up 138.50 points for first place.

Registering second places were Meltz with a state-cut 2:13.94 time in the 200 IM, Paul D'Ambrosio (200 free, 2:22.25), Carter (50 free, 26.50), Zac Broomfield (100 fly, 1:18.53), Scarborough (100 back, 1:14.47) and Tom Avila (100 breaststroke, 1:18.06).

Second-place relays were the 200 medley crew of Reynolds, Capt. Steve Fung, Capt. Nick Saunders and sophomore Mike Stewart (2:01.59) along with the 200 free foursome of Saunders, Javier Verdague, D'Ambrosio and Geary (4:48.60).

A defender was also runner-up in the diving with 147.00 points.

Hard place finishers were freshman Dave Espindle (100 fly, 1:20.60) and the 400 free relay of Mullen, Taylor, Espindle and Fung (4:28.45).

Fourth went to Espindle (200 free, 2:31.13), sophomore Felipe Machado (200 IM, 2:49.79), Taylor (50 free, 27.25), Stewart (500 free, 6:51.10) and freshman Naree Sathnur (100 back, 1:22.25).

"Mike Stewart trimmed 25 seconds off his 500 time and that's excellent progress," said coach Taffe.

Notching fifths were diver Brian O'Connor, Alex Anestis (100 free, 1:23.45) and Fang (100 breast, 1:25.02).

Chalking up sixths were Sathnur (200 IM, 3:03.13), Savoca (500 free) and D'Ambrosio (100 breast, 1:30.59).

BOYS BASKETBALL

Chris Vetrano poured through 32 points as the Golden Warriors erased a four-point halftime deficit and defeated Newton North, 67-59, to place the Lions on an impressive non-league victims' list that also includes B.C. High, Brockton, J.D. O'Bryant, North Andover and Greater Lawrence Tech.

The win, coupled with Merrimack Valley Conference thrashings of Lowell (80-54) and Tewksbury (81-65), improved the AHS record to 11-1 overall and 6-0 as the undisputed leader atop the MVC 1 standings.

Dracut lent the Golden Warriors a huge helping hand Tuesday night when the Middies shocked previously undefeated Central Catholic, 69-67, to send the Raiders tumbling to second place.

Coach Dave Fazio's squad has

also won 10 straight which is the third longest streak during his tenure.

"Three of the non-league teams we've beaten are among the Top 20 in Eastern Mass.," said Fazio. "B.C. High has only one loss, O'Bryant has two and Newton North has two."

"If you look at the score of our last six or seven games, we're holding opponents to an average of 52 points and scoring 77 ourselves. That's our MO. We have so many offensive weapons — which means when we cover the other team and play good defense, we win."

Scoring leaders

Through 12 games Chris Vetrano has 258 points (21.5 p.p.g.) leading his all-time AHS career total to 1,844 points (14.9 p.p.g.) since 2000.

Jack Barrett has 214 points (17.8 p.p.g.) in 12 games, and 950 points in his career which includes 175 double-doubles in 12 seasons playing at Reading High.

Other top scorers for AHS are Bobby Hughes (118 p.p.g.) and Casey Cosgrove (115 p.p.g.).

Chris Vetrano has 11 assists per game while Bobby Hughes, Jon DeLeo and Jack Barrett are all pulling down close to 6 rebounds per contest.

Schedule

The Tewksbury game began a stretch of six straight away from home, as the Golden Warriors play seven of their last 10 regular season contests on the road.

Andover travels to Haverhill tomorrow night (7:30 p.m.) and at Lawrence High on Sunday night (6:30 p.m.) hoping to average at least 76 loss to the Lancans in the opening round of the Christmas tournament.

Next Friday night the Golden Warriors trek to Central Catholic to face the once-beaten Raiders (7:30 p.m.) in the first of two games that should decide the MVC 1 championship.

The rematch with Central, currently 12-1 and 6-0 in league play, is at the Dunn Gym to cap the regular season on Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Better reserve your tickets for that one right now.

Andover 81
Tewksbury 65

Jack Barrett tossed in 25 points and passed up four assists while Chris Vetrano added 22 points and six assists, as the locals continued their strong play with this MVC crossover triumph Tuesday night at Tewksbury.

Continued on page 24

Baseball umpiring class at Tech School

The Greater Lawrence Baseball Umpires Association will hold its 2004 baseball umpiring class at the Greater Lawrence Technical School on River Road.

The class will cover Major League Baseball rules, using the *Major League Rule Book*. Successful completion of the class will make the candidate eligible for membership into Massachusetts Baseball Umpires Association.

The class will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24, and March 2 and 9. Cost is \$55.

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■ **MARBLEHEAD, MA**, 62 Pleasant St., Mosonic Hall, Fri., Sat., Sun., Jan. 23, 24, 25, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. TAG SALE! PSE: Large variety of oriental rugs, plus glass, china, bric-a-brac, more!

■ **MIDDLETON, MA**, 64 Fuller Pond Road, Fri., Jan. 23, 24, 25 p.m., Sat., Jan. 24, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Estate sale. High end furniture, antiques, dining room, bedroom room sets, office furniture, tables, etc.

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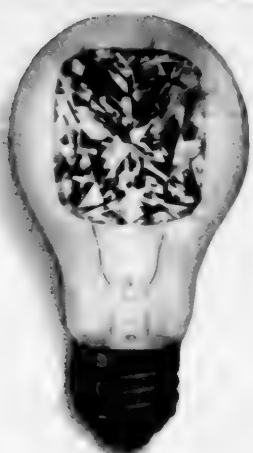
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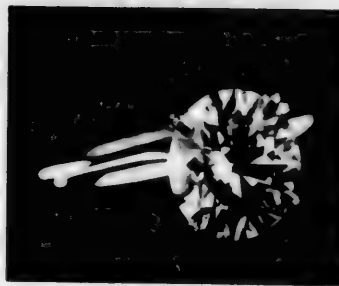
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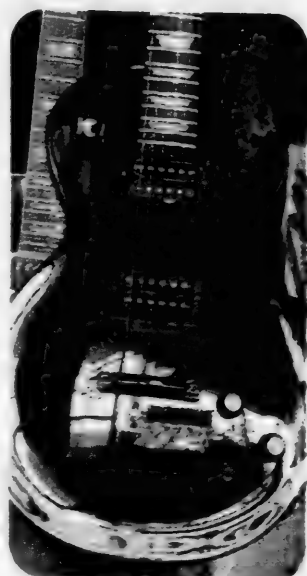
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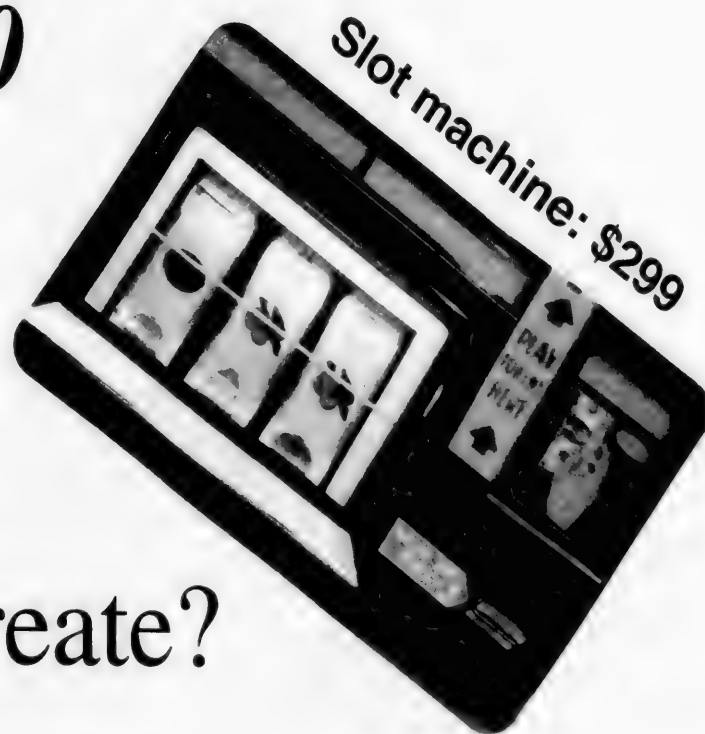
HOME IMPROVEMENT



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classifieds.

What room
could you create?



Slot machine: \$299



Phyllis Cerullo, owner of Seating by Design, liked the idea of creating a room with what could be found in the classified section. "There are so many things you could do. You just have to have time and have fun with it," she said.

By Andrea Gregory

The challenge: Using the classifieds, spend less than \$1,000 to find everything needed to furnish a stylish basement.

The list created: From the Jan. 15 *Townsmen*, we chose a black leather sofa for \$275, a casino slot machine for \$299, a faux fireplace with mantle and screen for \$125, 100 old records for \$65, a wall mirror for \$200, a bass guitar for \$30 and a free piano. The total came to \$994.

The chance of creating a success? Pretty good. According to some local interior designers, such selections could easily create quite a basement, and be a fun project to tackle.

"I can already picture the room," said Phyllis Cerullo, of Seating by Design. "I did a room similar to that, where the records went on the wall. The room theme would be the era of the music."

Cerullo said theme-based rooms have become more popular thanks to television shows such as *Trading Spaces* and

SUPPLIES

Items chosen from Jan. 15 *Townsmen* classified ads:

Leather sofa	\$275
Slot machine	\$299
Faux fireplace	\$125
100 old records	\$ 65
Wall mirror	\$200
Bass guitar	\$ 30
Piano	FREE
TOTAL	\$994

While You Were Out. The Learning Channel airs several home makeover shows letting viewers see the steps involved to create new rooms within short time restrictions. *While You Were Out* strives to create rooms with strong, dramatic themes. *Trading Spaces* challenges designers to makeover a room for less than \$1,000 and often incorporates theme-based rooms as well.

Cerullo said children's bedrooms are popular places to create rooms with themes, as are fin-

ished basements. She believes people can have a lot of fun incorporating creativity into their living space.

"Houses should be fun," she said. "There are so many things you could do. You just have to have time and have fun with it."

Sue Adams, of Sue Adams Interiors, said she doesn't often get inquiries about theme rooms, but said they are fun to create. Although no one had ever called before about creating a basement out of items found in the classifieds she said, "It would be fun (to do so). It's always fun to be challenged."

Both designers showed enthusiasm when asked to hypothetically redo a finished basement based on the selected classified items, and they immediately had ideas on how to set up the revitalized basement and add a few finishing touches.

"This is going to be a fun room," said Cerullo. "Some people throw a ping-pong table and a Nintendo down there and call it a

Continued on page 6A

Fix-it month at town library

Woman shows others home-improvement ropes

By Andrea Gregory

For Andover women who are sick and tired of waiting for a husband to fix a leaky faucet or tackle a home-improvement task, one woman has the answer and she is ready to share it — fix it yourself.

The old stereotype that tools fit better in male hands is an outdated concept that Marie Craig is ready to bury.

Craig will be speaking at Memorial Hall Library this Saturday, Jan. 24 to a room full of women ready to grab an electric drill or get a handle on a wrench, letting them all know the female gender can "fix it," too.

She says companies such as Tomboy Tools have created hardware tools for women. They are a little smaller, lighter and more manageable in a woman's hand.

"The goal of the program is to have women stop being afraid. They can't kill their house," she says.

Craig has been giving demonstrations to women who want to learn more about home improvement for a year and a half, but that is only part of what she does. Two years ago she started her own business, Marie's Home Improvement. She says she can take on those household to-do

lists that include everything from installing a towel rack to retilling floors, and about a million things in between. Her clients have two options: they can hire her to do the work solo or they can join her, roll up their sleeves and grab a hammer, some confidence and a learning experience.

After spending 20 years in the corporate world, Craig went back to her roots. From a young age she participated in her family's business of renovating old buildings and turning them into apartments. She was the youngest of four children who all grew up learning how to fix things. Although her father handled the big projects, she says her mother could do everything from knitting to repairing a broken toilet.

"I just grew up in a family where regular people did things," she says.

Craig is not a plumber or electrician, and all of her experience comes from hands-on learning. Her motto is "I can fix it, you can too." She says one of her favorite things about her job is hearing the words "Oh, my God, I can do this," from the women she teaches.

"I think it's a national trend. They are tired of waiting for men. Women are tired of waiting," she says. "This is happening all over the place."

Continued on page 2A

One man's trash can be another's suspicion

When Joe Galvin wanted to get rid of his old piano, he took on a task that proved to be harder than he thought.

The old, upright Lester had been in Galvin's Derry, N.H. garage for a year and a half. Even before its days of collecting dust there, it was

used almost exclusively to play Happy Birthday, he said. Finally, he slapped a \$25 price tag on it and tried to sell it at a summer yard sale. No one bought it. He said a few people stopped to play a few notes, but no offers came in.

Then, Galvin wheeled it out to the curb and placed a "free" sign on it. There were still no takers. He said he placed it outside with a free sign more than once without success.

"You would be surprised at how hard it was to get rid of, because it was free," said Galvin. He said the piano worked and was in good shape, but people seemed skeptical of the low price, or Galvin's reasons for just giving it away.

Last week he put an advertisement in the classifieds and within a day the piano was gone. Finally.

— Andrea Gregory



Piano: free



Fish make nice pets, but owners should follow some basic steps to create a safe environment.

Aquariums can brighten a room

Tips to keep fish alive and happy in a new home

(NAPSA) – Life can go swimmingly for pet fish if their owners know a few simple steps to keep them safe. But, while many people enjoy the look of an aquarium, few families follow the steps they should.

In fact, pet industry statistics show 90 percent of people who start an aquarium inadvertently kill the fish. To help aquarium owners and their fish stay out of such statistics, fish-care experts offer tools to avoid the three common causes of aquarium failure. These are: poor water quality, inconsistent water temperature, and adding the wrong fish at the wrong time.

Fish and aquatic plants thrive in an ecosystem that is naturally clean and healthy. Maintaining a healthy aquatic ecosystem is simple if people take a few minutes each week to monitor the water quality. Pet stores sell easy-to-use, easy-to-read test strips. They test for pH, ammonia levels and other conditions. Keeping the water quality balanced can be smooth sailing with user-friendly, pre-packaged products.



People need only heed a few rules to enjoy an aquarium.

Fish need a constant water temperature. Two factors control aquarium water temperature: location of the aquarium and the in-tank heater. Fish owners should keep aquariums away from heat sources and out of direct sunlight. Owners should stand at their tank's location and look around at all the windows, visualizing where the sun will hit at different times. They can

then locate their tank so that a shaft of sunlight streaming through a window does not hit it directly. They should also make sure the tank will not get a wave of cold or hot air from an air conditioner or furnace. They should place the tank away from cold, drafty areas such as near an outside door. The quality of the in-tank heater and thermostat is especially important.

Even though tap water can be easily treated to make it safe for fish immediately, when people first set up an aquarium, they should allow the aquarium to run for a few days to stabilize it before adding fish. Those who just can't wait to see fish swimming in their new aquarium, however, should start out with hardy, inexpensive fish to help the tank begin its biological cycle.

Do-it-herself projects

More women tackling home-improvement jobs

(MS) – According to the National Association of Realtors, the number of homes purchased by women increased 49 percent, from 606,000 in 1989 to 903,000 in 2001. As more women become homeowners, they are tackling more home

improvement projects than ever.

In fact, the number of home-improvement products purchased by women has increased from 31.7 percent in 1989 to 35.8 percent in 2001, according to the Home Improvement Research Institute.

Additionally, women select the product and complete the installation work more often than men on many types of home-improvement projects, including stripping or refinishing furniture, painting, shampooing carpets or rugs and gardening.

Learning at the library

■ FIX-IT WOMAN

Continued from page 1A

Craig does not claim to have all the answers, but with a strong base of knowledge, she says she is equipped with the confidence that can inspire women to take on home-improvement challenges.

She says not all projects are easy, and admits she has even cried over a tough project of her own.

"I use a lot of humor, a lot of self-deprecating humor," she says.

Craig says her Saturday demonstration will cover the toolbox basics and topics such as replacing faucets and shower heads, fixing toilets, restoring

tilled areas and other areas Andover women might have questions about.

Norma Gammon, community service librarian, says she is already aware of several local women looking forward to learning a few tips from Craig.

Gammon says the program is geared toward women, but men are welcome to attend and learn a thing or two as well.

"She comes with her electric drills and saws and goes the whole nine yards," says Gammon.

For more information call Gammon at 978-623-8401, Ext. 49, or log onto Craig's Web site at www.marieshomeimprovement.com.



Marie Craig will bring tools, knowledge to the library.

DESIGN TIME



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Sandy Schall, an interior designer at Seating by Design, uses a throw to accessorize a leather chair. Accessories can make a room, she said.

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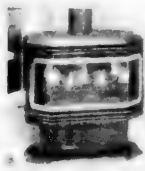
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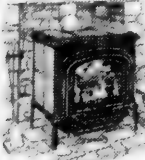
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LOOK WHAT'S COMING!

Home-building educational video game challenges students and their teachers

By Richard Proulx Sr.
President

Home Builders & Remodelers Association of New Hampshire
It's not *Grand Theft Auto* or *Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3*, but the simulated home-building game, *Building Homes of Our Own*, has captured the imagination – and attention – of middle and high school students across the country.

The program challenges students to work within a budget and schedule to design and build a home, starting with the selection of a site and ending with the sale of their home to a qualified buyer. In the process, they will rely on lessons and skills they have learned in school as they work in groups to solve problems and make decisions – exercising their critical thinking skills. When their home is completed, players review credit applications and sell their "virtual dream house," hoping not to go bust.

"The program has really taken off," said C. Kent Conine, a builder/developer from Dallas and president of the National Association of Home Builders, the Washington, DC-based organization that created the game. "*Building Homes of Our Own* is the most successful education program we've embarked on, and the proof is in the extraordi-

nary demand from teachers and the enthusiasm of students."

Teachers use *Building Homes of Our Own* to bring context to lessons taught in math, science, social studies, English, consumer economics and technology classes, using the comprehensive teacher's guide that comes with the program to supplement classroom teaching and engage their students.

Building Homes of Our Own features three levels of play within each of the four building sites found in urban, suburban, rivers and lakes, and coastline settings. Throughout the game, players encounter a variety of real-life obstacles and issues that test their skill, patience and resourcefulness. Students can elect to perform lab testing, conduct research, or call upon special consultants and engineers to help them arrive at sound decisions that satisfy environmental concerns or nervous neighbors. Attending a virtual town meeting or working within community planning and zoning laws are just a few of the many challenges students encounter.

Since the program hit the streets in September 2002, it has been delivered free and by request to 23,000 teachers, reaching an estimated audience of 805,000 students, 46,000 teachers and 966,000 parents –

more than 1.8 million people in just one year.

"Students are learning valuable decision-making skills in a real-life application that hits a variety of subjects, and think they are just playing a game," said Katherine Lewin, Ellenville Middle School, Ellenville, N.Y.

Building Homes of Our Own earned a 2002 International Electronic Multimedia Award, which recognizes excellence in digital media content creation through the acknowledgement of best practices and ongoing educational programs. The 11-year-old, European-based international awards program attracts entries from more than 40 countries.

Building Homes of Our Own has received partial funding from

NAHB's National Housing Endowment and Freddie Mac.

The program, including the 190-page teacher's guide, is available on CD-ROM and is compatible with the Microsoft Windows operating system. Through the Web site www.HomesOfOurOwn.org, one copy is free to classroom educators and members of home builder associations affiliated with NAHB.

The Home Builders & Remodelers Association of New Hampshire is a statewide trade association representing 1,000 member firms engaged in residential and light construction and says it is dedicated to providing housing to families of all income levels.

Paint can be the key to home restoration

(NU) – Whether a person lives in a historic 1800s Victorian, a 1920s bungalow or a 1980s Colonial home, the personality of their house is projected to everyone that visits.

When it is time to repaint a home, homeowners might want to consider restoring some of the building's original integrity through the use of color. Instead of playing it safe by painting the house white with black shutters, why not do a little research into the home's history and add color that makes its character shine through?

First, people need to do a little research on their home, such as determining the year it was built. A local library can help, as can town government offices. Andover has the

Andover Historical Society, a Preservation Commission and the Ballardvale Historic District Commission.

Books on architecture and architectural home styles will help determine the "era" of one's home. There also are magazines available on home restoration and architectural styles and many home shows on cable television that will aid people in their research efforts.

For example, a person might know his or her home was built in the early 1920s and is currently white with dark green shutters. By digging a little deeper, that person could find out the style of the house is Dutch Colonial and that yellow was a popular color during that era for that particular style of home.

DID YOU KNOW...?

How to buy for someone who owns a tiny apartment (or is always cold)

(NAPSA) - The Internet can be a valuable resource for finding gift ideas. People who want to get creative might want to try *Surprise.com* which suggests gift ideas for 342 different types of people in categories such as Always Cold, Unusual Sense of Humor, and Lives in a Small Apartment. *Surprise.com*, which was named one of the "Best 50 sites on the Web" by *Time* magazine is considered easy to use by many.

Kitchen tips

The following tips from Frigidaire can save energy and money when washing dishes.

Run the dishwasher with a full load. Wait until the dishwasher is completely full before running the wash cycle. Using a dishwasher for just a few dishes consumes more water and energy, resulting in higher monthly costs. Use the dishwasher instead of hand-washing dishes and pans. An average dishwasher uses 25 percent less detergent, as well as significantly less water and energy, than hand washing.

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Gypsum board: 'Sound' idea for family: media rooms

(MS) — After a tough day on the job or at school, what better way to relax than to retreat to the latest rage in residential amenities — the "media room" — to take in a first-run movie or a favorite TV show.

Featuring state-of-the-art projection and sound systems, the media room seems to be replacing the recreation room as the gathering place of choice in a growing number of American homes. In fact, 19 percent of adults age 18 or older said they might install a home theater system in the near future, according to one recent survey.

Typically, media rooms are multi-use rooms, set up much like a family or recreation room, with seating areas and a large-screen TV. In seeking to capture a true theater experience, homeowners are digging deep into their wallets to outfit their media rooms with the latest pre-wired surround-sound systems, which typically include at least three front and two rear speakers.

But as sound systems become more powerful and penetrating, homeowners are faced with a new challenge — keeping the sound from migrating to adjacent living areas.

"It's no small feat," suggests Michael Gardner, a spokesperson for the Gypsum Association, which represents manufacturers of gypsum wallboard in the United States and Canada. "From a cost perspective, thoroughly soundproofing a media room is beyond the reach of most homeowners. And it's difficult to achieve structurally."

A more realistic goal is to at least deaden the sound using low-cost, conventional building methods and materials.

Perhaps the most cost-effective way to control sound emanating from a media room, according to Gardner, is to install a second layer of gypsum board over the room's existing walls. Gypsum board has excellent sound-control qualities, is less expensive than other sound-insulating materials, and is readily available at home centers and lumber yards.

When deadening sound with gypsum board, add a second layer of gypsum board that is thicker or thinner (preferably thicker) than the existing wallboard, but not the same thickness. "Gypsum board is a membrane that vibrates when struck by sound waves," Gardner explains, "and different thicknesses vibrate at different frequencies. Since the vibration helps dissipate sound energy, using different board thicknesses increases the amount of sound energy dissipated. More importantly, as more sound is dissipated, less sound passes through the wall system into adjacent areas."

For example, adding a layer of 5/8-inch gypsum board over an existing 1/2-inch

gypsum-board wall can significantly increase sound dissipation and reduce sound flow to adjacent areas.

Yet, when planning a media room, it is important to recognize that effective sound control is a two-way street. While homeowners want to contain sound within the media room, they also want to insulate the media room from exterior noise that can compromise the fidelity of a surround-

sound system.

To keep unwanted sound out of the media room, the Gypsum Association suggests sealing gaps around electrical outlets, plumbing fixtures, and doors and windows with flexible caulk. "Sound waves will find their way through penetration points in a room," Gardner stresses, "so sealing perimeter gaps is essential to creating an acoustically pleasant environment."



Media rooms are a gathering spot in many American homes.

Gallup Poll: Watching TV favorite evening for most

(NAPS) — The ratings are in — the public thinks television is a prime channel for togetherness and recreation.

More than 50 percent of Americans say that their favorite ways to spend an evening are watching TV and videos and spending time with the family, according to a recent Gallup Poll.

It's no wonder that home entertainment purchases are booming and TV screens are growing by leaps and bounds. According to the Consumer Electronics Association, Americans tripled their spending on home theater systems to nearly

\$1 billion a year between 2000 and 2002 and sales of consumer electronics products are projected to soar to a record \$99.5 billion this year.

Even traditional analog televisions are growing at a rapid rate; approximately 52 percent of all analog TV sales in 2003 will be in home theater screen sizes of 25 inches and larger.

No longer just a tube in a box, today's TVs are constantly evolving, with high-definition television (HDTV) projected to replace analog television by the end of 2005. And a host of options continually unfold, including

direct-view TVs, LCD TVs, sleek, flat plasma monitors and cinema screens with their 16:9 aspect ratio (or width-to-height proportion) — a far different look from the traditional 4:3 ratio for TV screens.

Doug Krieger, a design director for a furniture company, suggests people should not settle for anything less than a perfect fit when making a TV part of a room's decor. "From trim corner stands to room-spanning home theater units, there's a furniture size and room style match for every television," he notes.

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Asking a contractor the right questions

National association offers homeowners tips to avoid home-remodeling fraud

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry shares a short list of questions homeowners might want to have answered before starting a remodeling project.

One would think that launching an entire remodeling project would spark a truckload of questions from wary homeowners who have heard the horror stories surrounding the world of remodeling. Surprisingly, though, contractor members of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry admit they aren't asked enough questions.

"Timing and money are the most common questions we hear," says NARI President Mark Brick. "During an interview with a homeowner, homeowners should be asking about credentials and verifying business practices, rather than 'When can you start?' 'When will it be finished?' and 'How much will it cost?'"

Other popular queries homeowners pose are:

"What time will you knock on my door each morning?" "What time will you quit for the day?" "Are you going to work everyday?" "Can you finish before (insert any major holiday or significant family event)?" and "How much will it cost per square foot?"

While these questions are important, they shouldn't be the primary focus for choosing a professional remodeler, says Brick. If homeowners wish to have a successful remodeling project, they should learn the right questions to ask and how to ask them.

"A reasonable timetable is important," says Brick, "but it shouldn't be the primary focus of an interview or a job, and neither should budget. Homeowners should focus on trust and quality. If you find someone who is reputable and trustworthy, the budget and timeline will fall into place."

Homeowners should start by asking questions about a company's business practices and experience in a similar type of project. When hiring a particular contractor, one can discuss when he or she can start, what

time he or she can knock on the door each morning and when the job will be finished. These are all items that can be discussed at a pre-remodeling meeting.

Here are some of the questions NARI recommends asking before signing a remodeling contract:

- How long have you been in business?
- Who will be assigned as project supervisor for the job?
- Who will be working on the project? Are they employees or subcontractors?
- What is your approach to a project such as this?
- How many projects like mine have you completed in the past year?
- May I have a list of reference from those projects?
- May I have a list of business referrals or suppliers?
- What percentage of your business is repeat or referral business?
- Are you a member of a national trade association?

• Does your company carry workers compensation and liability insurance?

A homeowner should always verify this information by calling the insurance agency. A copy of an insurance certificate does not let one know if the policy is still current, even if the certificate has an expiration date. The insurance policy may have been canceled by either party.

• Are you licensed?

If licensing is required in their state, a homeowner should also ask if the contractor is licensed and call to verify compliance with the law. Not all states offer or require licensing, though. Homeowners should check with local or state government agencies.

• Have you or your employees been certified in remodeling or had any special training or education, such as earning a Certified Remodeler (CR), Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler (CKBR) Certified Remodeler Specialist (CRS) or Certified Lead Carpenter (CLC) or Certified Kitchen & Bath Remodeler (CKBR) designation?

It's also important to realize that sometimes it's not the answers that are significant, but what the contractor leaves out. Sometimes asking the right questions is not enough, and homeowners need to pay attention to their instincts and to what information is missing.



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About the National Association of the Remodeling Industry

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For more information about finding a qualified remodeling professional, consumers can call the NARI National hotline at 800-611-NARI and request a free copy of NARI's brochure, "How to Select a Remodeling Professional," or visit www.RemodelToday.com and download the brochure. Click on the homeowners guide for more information.

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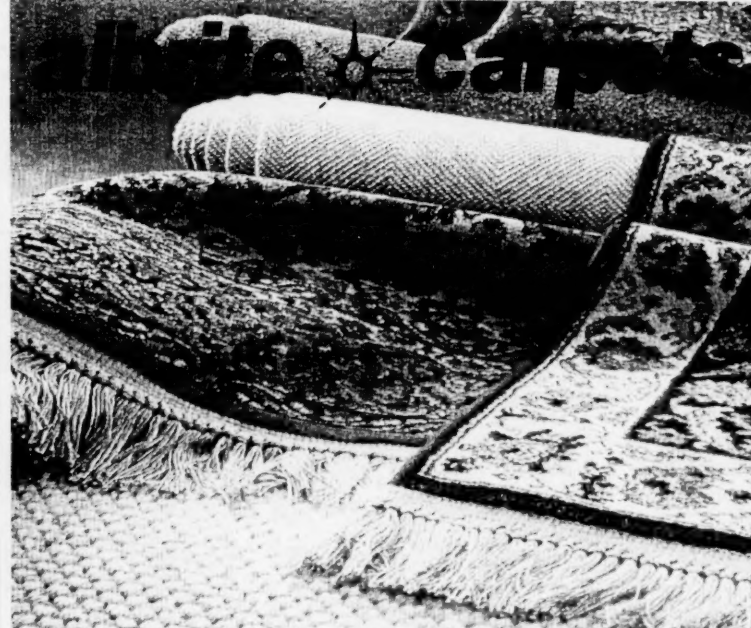
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Designers: Theme rooms can be fun

MUSIC THEME

Continued from page 1A

room.

"The key thing is you want to be inspired," she said.

A guy's room

Both designers suggested placing the records on the wall, either in or out of their sleeves. They suggested different patterns and placement, but said people should stay away from essentially wallpapering the room in records.

Adams said trying to cover a whole room in records would result in a "dizzy look." But she believed having one entire wall of records would look great. Her suggestion was to cover the wall behind the couch with that look.

She said a homeowner should save a few records in case the owner decides add more decoration later. She suggested that a glass coffee table with records beneath the glass would be a great touch. She would put the sofa on a wall opposite the fake fireplace.

Adams said she pictures the room being a "guy's room."

She said she would put the mirror on the wall near the piano and guitar, giving a section of the room a rock-star feel, and a place for musicians to watch themselves jam. She suggested positioning the slot machine diagonally in a corner of the room, rather than flat against a wall. She said the slot machine was a great piece to add more character to the room. She said

she has seen a house with a slot machine in the kitchen, where it fit well. "That's a totally fun piece," said Adams.

Away from the walls

Cerullo also liked the idea of having the slot machine as the "fun part of the room." However, she had some different ideas about furniture placement.

"The key thing is you don't want everything flat against the wall," she said. "You always want to float the furniture a little bit."

Cerullo said the focal point of her basement would be the fireplace, with the wall mirror placed above it, to open up the room. She would "float" the couch, having it face the fireplace in the center of the room. To one side of the room would be the piano, with the guitar resting close by, in front of a backdrop of records on the wall. She recommended using paint to write, in cursive, the names a band or musician near the records. She would also paint some musical notes around the records. Then, on the other side of the room, she might paint dollar signs on the wall near the kitty-cornered slot machine.

Though the designers differ a bit in style, it was clear they were on a similar tack, and both said at least part of the room should be painted red.

One bright red wall contrasting with a black sofa and the records was enough for Cerullo. Adams was ready to paint the

whole room red, saying the color was bold and fit with the music theme.

"I picture a pretty intense red, from brick red to fire-engine

red," said Adams. "Red adds energy to a room."

"You see red in music a lot," she said. "There's nothing quiet about that color."



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Mixing and matching colors is important in the design of a room, said designer Phyllis Cerullo. For the imaginary basement with a music theme we created, she suggested painting one wall red, to complement the black couch.

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